

ALBUMXPRESS

The power of endless creativity

USER MANUAL 8.0

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Digital World for Still & Motion Imaging

1.0. Introduction

Life is full of colorful moments and Albums help to recreate the magic of those special occasions long after they are over. Hence, Albums for any special occasion or landmark in life, such as weddings, birthdays and so on, should be created in a manner that helps one to relive and cherish those special moments. This is where Album Xpress, conceptualized and created by DgFlick, comes into the picture. The software is specially designed with numerous multi utility features, which provides a user-friendly interface even for the most amateur Album creators.

Its features also cater to professional Album makers and thus its scope and use are wide ranging. The ready-to-use industry standard Album types and sizes and the in-built templates, themes and decors ensure that Album creation is just a matter of a few clicks. Instant color correction with reference to background of the page helps the user to edit the photos in a better way.

This manual explains the features and uses of Album Xpress in detail and will serve as your guide as you navigate the world of easy and instant Album creation.

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2.0. System Requirements

Windows System

- ✓ Pentium 4, 2.8 GHz Processor and above
- ✓ Microsoft Windows XP (service pack 2)/ Microsoft Windows 7 / Microsoft Windows 8
- ✓ 1 GB RAM
- ✓ 1 GB free disk space
- ✓ CD/DVD- ROM drive
- ✓ USB Port *

MAC System

- ✓ Mac Intel, min 1 GHz
- ✓ Mac OS X 10.8.5 and above
- ✓ 1 GB RAM
- ✓ 1 GB free disk space
- ✓ CD/DVD-ROM drive
- ✓ USB Port *

Note: *Please insert the Dongle into the USB Drive to register the software.

3.0. Opening the Tool Box – Getting Started

This section deals with registration process and other tools like controls and navigations, preferences and help.

3.1. Registration

3.2. Re-Registering the Software on another Computer

3.3. Know your Software

3.3.1. What is new?

3.3.2. General Features

3.3.3. Controls & Navigations

3.3.4. Preferences

3.3.5. Shortcut Tools

3.1. Registration

Once you have installed the Album Xpress software on your computer, you need to proceed to Registration. This ensures that all features of the software are made available to you. Registration is very easy and the user-friendliness of the software makes the process quick and simple.

On installation of Album Xpress, the Registration window appears on your screen. Relevant details such as the Owner Name, Email and Phone or Mobile Number need to be entered; all fields are mandatory. Fill in the details and proceed as per the instructions in this section.

The software enables you to complete the registration process while you are connected to the Internet. It also allows you to register at a later date.

The screen that you first see on starting the registration process needs to be completed as a first step. Here is how:

- ❖ Enter your details in the relevant fields. These are Name, Email and Phone or Mobile number. ①
- ❖ In the last field-, Serial Number (XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX) will be automatically generated in the serial number text box. ③ You will also find the serial number inside the software box pack.
- ❖ Click on the 'Buy Now' button ② to buy the complete version of Album Xpress.

The screenshot shows the 'Registration' window with the following elements:

- Name:** A text input field with placeholder 'xxxxxx'.
- Email:** A text input field with placeholder 'xxxxxx@xxx.xxx'.
- Phone / Mobile:** A text input field with placeholder '9876543210'.
- Serial number:** A text input field with placeholder 'xxxxxx-xxxxxx-xxxxxx-xxxxxx'.
- Buttons:** A 'Buy Now' button (blue) and a 'Register' button (green) at the bottom right. A 'Register Later' button (grey) is at the bottom left.
- Footer:** Website: <http://www.dgflick.com>, Email: support@dgflick.com, Telephone: India : +91-22-29 68 68 68, United States : +1-732-543-7676.

Numbered callouts (1-5) point to specific fields and buttons: ① points to the Name field, ② points to the Buy Now button, ③ points to the Serial number field, ④ points to the Register button, and ⑤ points to the Register Later button.

'Registration' window

- ❖ After ensuring that all the fields are filled correctly, click on 'Register' ④ in the lower right-hand corner.
- ❖ To register the software at a later date, click on 'Register Later' option ⑤.
- ❖ The message confirming completion of the registration process appears on the screen.
- ❖ For any query and assistance, feel free to connect with us via;

- **Telephone:** Call +91 22 2968 68 68 and the support executive will provide you with the registration key corresponding to your DgKey.
 - **Email:** Email us at support@dgflick.com to receive your registration key via Email.
 - **Web:** Log on to www.dgflick.com to receive the key.
- ❖ You are now registered and can use the software.



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3.2. Re-Registering the Software on another Computer

The licensed version of Album Xpress is freely transferable to any other Computer.

- ❖ In case you want to use the software on any other computer, firstly, install the software on the computer on which you want to use it.
- ❖ After installation, connect the dongle to the computer and fill the registration form. While filling up the registration form, enter the same email address you used at the time of registering the software on previous computer. Serial number will be automatically generated.
- ❖ After filling up the form, click on the 'Register' button. You will get an alert stating, "It seems the license is already registered on other system. Do you wish to transfer the license to this system?"
- ❖ If you want to transfer the license to this system, click on 'Yes' or else to cancel the operation, click on 'No'.
- ❖ When you click 'Yes', you get an email on the registered email. This email contains a link. Click on the link to unregister the software from previous system. You will be redirected to a web page where you will get a confirmation that license is ready to transfer to the new system.
- ❖ Now you can register the software on new computer by clicking on 'Register' option.

3.3. Know the Software

This section gives you a basic understanding of Album Xpress before you actually start working on the software. Running through this section will enhance your understanding of the options available and will help you to make finest use of the software.



3.3.1. What is new?

In new version of Album Xpress, we have added some interesting features that enhance the workability of the software and serve you with the tools that add to your comfort while you work in Album Xpress. This section makes you familiar with the newly added features.

- ❖ **Improved interface:** Album Xpress has some new interface developments that will give you more ease while working.
- ❖ **Textures to fill titles and shapes:** New feature to fill titles and shapes with textures. Now filling of titles and shapes are not restricted up to solid color. Besides, Album Xpress provides 50 ready presets of textures, which can be used or your own textures can be imported. The texture can be filled in tiled or stretched style.
- ❖ **A brand new 'Title' tab:** The 'Title' tab has been changed and giving you newer weapons. Now you can manage the size of the title by just dragging the title. Fastest management of title. Apart from the solid colors and ready presets, you can fill the title with any texture. Manage the fill in tiled and stretched way. Customize title further with outline and shadow. Experience real magic by exploring 'Title' tab.
- ❖ **Make your own slogans, cliparts and decors:** Now, you can save quotes, clipart combinations and any object in PNG format in Album Xpress. This way, you can use any object in multiple albums and encash your creativity.
- ❖ **DPI choice for low-resolution PDF file:** The low-resolution file you generate through Album Xpress for customer approval can be saved in the multiple DPI. Album Xpress offers you different DPI options like DPI 50, DPI 72, DPI 96 and DPI 150. Save the album in desired DPI to get the desired visibility of approval PDF.



3.3.2. General Features

Album Xpress comes with several features, which are discussed in this section:

- ❖ **Auto Album Creation:** Album Xpress helps you to design and create the Album of your choice. It allows you to sort, select and sequence templates and photos while planning your page layout. You can even edit the








photos and view them in the order they will appear in the Album. The photo selection is template based and easier with orientation indicators for required photos.












- ❖ **Ready albums:** Get ready albums in Album Xpress to design instant albums. Album Xpress comes with two ready albums in which you just need to insert photos and the album is ready in no time. The ready albums consist of 40 designed pages with album jacket and cover. The photo selection is template based and easier with orientation indicators for required photos.
- ❖ **Eco and Perfect Album creation:** In Album Xpress, you can also create Perfect and Eco Album. Album Xpress tries to make perfect Album by arranging the photos in the order they were taken while Eco album arranges all the photos in same size.
- ❖ **Ready-to-Use Templates, Themes and Presets:** Album Xpress has more than 2000 inbuilt templates. In addition, DgFlick releases new downloadable templates and themes on a regular basis. Existing templates and themes can be altered as per your specifications and saved*; you could also build* templates and themes and share* them or sell them with other Album Xpress users worldwide. Moreover, more than 100 presets are also available along with the Album Xpress, which can be used for quick Album creation in instances where no major customizations are required.
- ❖ **Online Cropping:** The online photo crop feature allows you to trim out any part of the source photo that you do not need. You can crop the photo to give it the desired height and width before incorporating it in the Album.
- ❖ **Onboard layer masking*:** Work onboard and apply flexible masking effects with various types of brushes. Also, apply multiple brushes on one photo. Easy mask applying with desired opacity and brush flow.
- ❖ **In-built Standard Album Sizes:** Album Xpress comes loaded with several in-built Album types predefined according to the standard industry printing and binding specifications.
- ❖ **Page and Spread Base Designing:** In Album Xpress you will get three different page styles i.e. Page, Spread and Spread Split, select any of the desired style to design the Album.
- ❖ **Single click to change template:** Easy template swapping. Get new template on every click. Save time of searching right template. Just click and see which template looks best for the album you are designing.
- ❖ **Free Transform:** In Album Xpress, borders and masks have on board transforming flexibility along with photos.
- ❖ **Center zoom in:** Album Xpress gives you advance feature of center zooming. This helps you to align photo properly.
- ❖ **Template Creation and Alteration:** You can create* new templates and themes or alter existing ones for the Album of your choice. You may also create a completely new page design using your own Decor and save* the template for future use.
- ❖ **Advance Photo Editing:** Album Xpress has features—Lasso, Chroma, Touchup, Highlight and Eraser—for advance photo editing to enhance the quality of the photos that make up the Album. While designing the album, you may send the photo to Photoshop* for editing and use it in album.
- ❖ **Multilingual:** Album Xpress is already loaded with multiple languages. Album Xpress supports Unicode. DgFlick keeps adding to its list of languages that Album Xpress works on. You could download the latest dictionary, which may include the language you are looking for. Else, you could add the language of your choice to DgFlick's dictionary for your own use.

- ❖ **Available on Windows and Mac:** Album Xpress works on both Mac and Windows systems. DgFlick releases the updates for both versions simultaneously.
- ❖ **Print Anywhere:** You could export your project in (i) JPEG format; (ii) Low Resolution PDF for customer approval (iii) as a print- ready PDF i.e. high resolution PDF; and (iv) as a layered PDF to allow color correction before final printing. You can also generate PSD files *of the projects and get the layer wise PSD on which you can work in Photoshop software.
- ❖ **Easy Backup:** Once the Album is ready, you can save the Album with the photos and decors i.e. backgrounds, clip arts, borders, masks used in it for further usage.
- ❖ **Interactive User Interface:** Navigation through the software is simplified by user-friendly controls and virtually no training is required before use. Moreover, all control panels are dock able and expandable and can be moved to the position of your choice.

*Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.*

3.3.3. Controls & Navigations

Icon	Meaning	Icon	Meaning	Icon	Meaning
	Preferences		Lock/unlock photos		'Info' icon
	Help		Arrange objects		Lasso-make layer
	Adjust size		Page-based alignment		Lasso-select layer
	Go to the home page		Object-based alignment		Full Screen View
	Helps you to move back to the previous window		Equal spacing between objects		Left page
	Helps you go to the next window		Equal size photos		Right page
	Select path for browsing		Group/Ungroup Photos		Page spread
	Undo edit		Rotate photo		Expand design collage
	Redo edit		Edit Photo		Fit design photo collage
	Show/hide margins		Split Photo		Crop design photo collage
	Show/hide gridlines		Photo Gird		Delete Photo
	Show/hide Centerline		Save the work		Start masking
	Photo is locked		Save a copy of the changes		Exit masking
	Photo is unlocked and can be modified		Load original image		Clear masking
	Zoom in		Reset		Save output as JPG

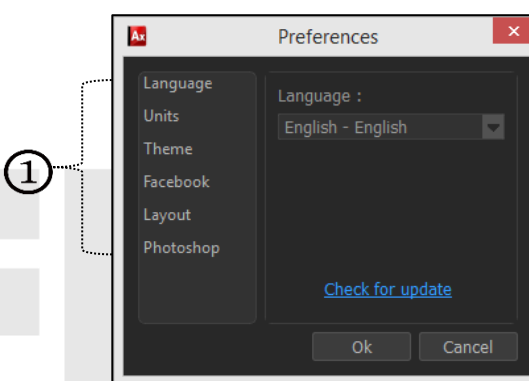
	Zoom out		Rotate Borders in 90°, 180° and 270°		Save output as PDF
	Swap photo		Rotate clockwise and counter clock wise		Save output as PSD
	Fit to screen		Flip horizontally and vertically		Export for Choice Xpress
	Actual size		Panning		



3.3.4. Preferences

Album Xpress allows you great flexibility in usages while working on it. You could

- ❖ Change to the language of your choice.
- ❖ Select the units you wish to work with.
- ❖ Select the desired Theme for your software.
- ❖ Choose your Facebook history storage options.
- ❖ Select the layout for your software.
- ❖ Set the path of Photoshop software for photo editing*.



'Preferences' window

After installation, click on the Album Xpress shortcut icon in your specified path to start the software.


- ❖ Clicking on the 'Preferences' icon  on the top right-hand corner, displays the 'Preferences' window ①.
- ❖ Choose your preferred language from various available languages from 'Language' tab, click on 'Check for Updates' to check the updated list of languages.
- ❖ Select the units in which you want to work in canvas area from the dropdown list of 'Units'.
- ❖ Select the color in which you want your software to be displayed from 'Theme' tab, click on 'Get More' to get more themes from DgFlick's website.
- ❖ The history, which was generated at the time of importing photos from Facebook, can be cleared by checking the 'Clear history everytime' checkbox from 'Facebook' tab.
OR
- ❖ If you want to work offline and want to access the photos from Facebook in future, which are already accessed, then keep the checkbox unchecked.
- ❖ From 'Layout' tab, you can change the layout of 'Design Album' window of the software. You can align tabs to left, right, bottom and default style.
- ❖ In 'Photoshop' tab*, browse from the 'Browse' button and give the path of Photoshop exe file in the location folder of Photoshop software. The path will be set. Once you set the path here, you will be able to edit

photo in Photoshop without defining path each time. It saves your time of defining path every time you edit the photo.

- ❖ Save your changes by clicking on 'Ok'. You might need to restart your software for the changes to take effect.
- ❖ Click on 'Help' to get the help menu. This has a complete list of shortcut keys that you will find useful while using the software (Refer Section Shortcut tools).

*Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.*



3.3.5. Shortcut Tools

Album Xpress - Shortcut Keys			
Object Type	Actions	Windows	Mac
All	Move – Left	Left Arrow key	Left Arrow key
	Move – Right	Right Arrow key	Right Arrow key
	Move – Top	Top Arrow key	Top Arrow key
	Move – Bottom	Bottom Arrow key	Bottom Arrow key
	Move – Left + Snap	CTRL + Left Arrow key	COMMAND + Left Arrow key
	Move – Right + Snap	CTRL + Right Arrow key	COMMAND + Right Arrow key
	Move – Top + Snap	CTRL + Top Arrow key	COMMAND + Top Arrow key
	Move – Bottom + Snap	CTRL + Bottom Arrow key	COMMAND + Bottom Arrow key
Photo	Crop – Zoom In	ALT + '+'	ALT + '+'
	Crop – Zoom Out	ALT + '-'	ALT + '-'
	Crop – Left Pan	ALT + Left Arrow key	ALT + Left Arrow key
	Crop – Right Pan	ALT + Right Arrow key	ALT + Right Arrow key
	Crop – Top Pan	ALT + Top Arrow key	ALT + Top Arrow key
	Crop – Bottom Pan	ALT + Bottom Arrow key	ALT + Bottom Arrow key
	Crop – Before	Page Up	Page Up
	Crop – After	Page Down	Page Down
All	Rotate X Increase	ALT + X	ALT + X
	Rotate X Decrease	ALT + CTRL + X	ALT + COMMAND + X
	Rotate Y Increase	ALT + Y	ALT + Y
	Rotate Y Decrease	ALT + CTRL + Y	ALT + COMMAND + Y
	Rotate Z Increase	ALT + Z	ALT + Z
	Rotate Z Decrease	ALT + CTRL + Z	ALT + COMMAND + Z
All	Arrange Object – Bring To Front	SHIFT + Top Arrow Key	SHIFT + Top Arrow Key
	Arrange Object – Bring Forward	SHIFT + Right Arrow key	SHIFT + Right Arrow key
	Arrange Object – Send to Back	SHIFT + Bottom Arrow key	SHIFT + Bottom Arrow key
	Arrange Object – Send Backward	SHIFT + Left Arrow key	SHIFT + Left Arrow key
All	Align Page based – Top Left	CTRL + 7	COMMAND + 7
	Align Page based – Top Center	CTRL + 8	COMMAND + 8
	Align Page based – Top Right	CTRL + 9	COMMAND + 9
	Align Page based – Center Left	CTRL + 4	COMMAND + 4
	Align Page based – Center	CTRL + 5	COMMAND + 5
	Align Page based – Center Right	CTRL + 6	COMMAND + 6
	Align Page based – Bottom Left	CTRL + 1	COMMAND + 1

	Align Page based – Bottom Center	CTRL + 2	COMMAND + 2
	Align Page based – Bottom Right	CTRL + 3	COMMAND + 3
	Align Page based – Top	CTRL + T	COMMAND + T
	Align Page based – Bottom	CTRL + B	COMMAND + B
	Align Page based – Left	CTRL + L	COMMAND + L
	Align Page based – Right	CTRL + R	COMMAND + R
All	Align Object based – Top Left	CTRL + SHIFT + 7	COMMAND + SHIFT + 7
	Align Object based – Top Center	CTRL + SHIFT + 8	COMMAND + SHIFT + 8
	Align Object based – Top Right	CTRL + SHIFT + 9	COMMAND + SHIFT + 9
	Align Object based – Center Left	CTRL + SHIFT + 4	COMMAND + SHIFT + 4
	Align Object based – Center	CTRL + SHIFT + 5	COMMAND + SHIFT + 5
	Align Object based – Center Right	CTRL + SHIFT + 6	COMMAND + SHIFT + 6
	Align Object based – Bottom Left	CTRL + SHIFT + 1	COMMAND + SHIFT + 1
	Align Object based – Bottom Center	CTRL + SHIFT + 2	COMMAND + SHIFT + 2
	Align Object based – Bottom Right	CTRL + SHIFT + 3	COMMAND + SHIFT + 3
	Align Object based – Top	CTRL + SHIFT + T	COMMAND + SHIFT + T
	Align Object based – Bottom	CTRL + SHIFT + B	COMMAND + SHIFT + B
	Align Object based – Left	CTRL + SHIFT + L	COMMAND + SHIFT + L
	Align Object based – Right	CTRL + SHIFT + R	COMMAND + SHIFT + R
All	Equal Spacing Horizontally	CTRL + SHIFT + H	COMMAND + SHIFT + H
	Equal Spacing Vertically	CTRL + SHIFT + V	COMMAND + SHIFT + V
All	Move Selection to Next Object	TAB	TAB
	Move Selection to Previous Object	SHIFT + TAB	SHIFT + TAB
	Add Next Object to current Selection	CTRL + TAB	COMMAND + TAB
	Add Previous Object to current Selection	CTRL + SHIFT + TAB	COMMAND + SHIFT + TAB
All	Select All Objects on page	CTRL + A	COMMAND + A
	Cut Object(s)	CTRL + X	COMMAND + X
	Copy Object(s)	CTRL + C	COMMAND + C
	Paste Object(s)	CTRL + V	COMMAND + V
	Delete Object(s)	DEL	DEL
	Undo Object(s)	CTRL + Z	COMMAND + Z
	Redo Object(s)	CTRL + Y	COMMAND + Y
	Show Photo Information	CTRL + SHIFT + I	COMMAND + SHIFT + I
All	Increase the size of Object from – Top Left	ALT + 7	ALT + 7
	Increase the size of Object from – Top Center	ALT + 8	ALT + 8
	Increase the size of Object from – Top Right	ALT + 9	ALT + 9
	Increase the size of Object from – Center Left	ALT + 4	ALT + 4
	Increase the size of Object from – Center	ALT + 5	ALT + 5
	Increase the size of Object from – Center Right	ALT + 6	ALT + 6
	Increase the size of Object from –	ALT + 1	ALT + 1

	Bottom Left		
	Increase the size of Object from – Bottom Center	ALT + 2	ALT + 2
	Increase the size of Object from – Bottom Right	ALT + 3	ALT + 3
All	Decrease the size of Object from – Top Left	CTRL + ALT + 7	COMMAND + ALT + 7
	Decrease the size of Object from – Top Center	CTRL + ALT + 8	COMMAND + ALT + 8
	Decrease the size of Object from – Top Right	CTRL + ALT + 9	COMMAND + ALT + 9
	Decrease the size of Object from – Center Left	CTRL + ALT + 4	COMMAND + ALT + 4
	Decrease the size of Object from – Center	CTRL + ALT + 5	COMMAND + ALT + 5
	Decrease the size of Object from – Center Right	CTRL + ALT + 6	COMMAND + ALT + 6
	Decrease the size of Object from – Bottom Left	CTRL + ALT + 1	COMMAND + ALT + 1
	Decrease the size of Object from – Bottom Center	CTRL + ALT + 2	COMMAND + ALT + 2
	Decrease the size of Object from – Bottom Right	CTRL + ALT + 3	COMMAND + ALT + 3
Page	Flip Page composition Horizontally	ALT + H	ALT + H
	Flip Page composition Vertically	ALT + V	ALT + V
View	Fit to Screen	CTRL + F12	COMMAND + F12
	Actual Size (1:1)	CTRL + SHIFT + F12	COMMAND + SHIFT + F12
	Zoom In	+	+
	Zoom Out	-	-
Screen	Toggle Full Screen	CTRL + SHIFT + F11	COMMAND + SHIFT + F11

Digital World for Still & Motion Imaging

4.0. Getting into the Job

– Using the Software

In previous section, we learnt about software functionality. Now in this section we will learn how to use this software to create Albums. We will see various available categories and sizes and various ways to create Albums.

4.1. Predefined Categories & Sizes

4.2. Predefined Album Styles

4.3. Create, Edit & Delete Category *

4.3.1. Creating a Category

4.3.2. Editing a Category

4.3.3. Deleting a Category

4.4. Create, Edit & Delete Sizes *

4.4.1. Creating a Size

4.4.2. Editing a Size

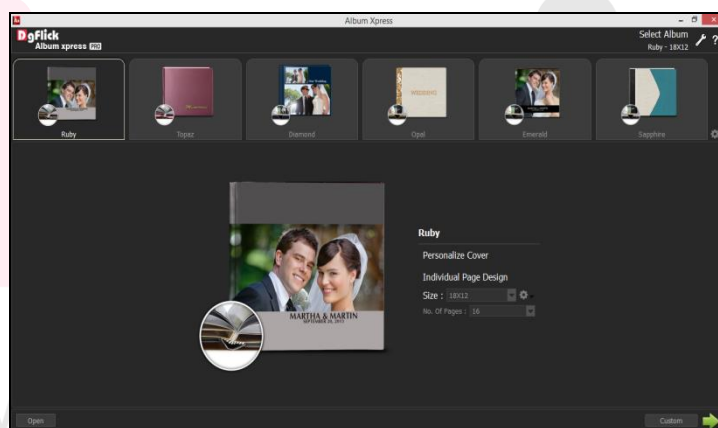
4.4.3. Deleting a Size

4.1. Predefined Categories & Sizes

Album Xpress is versatile software that lets you use its made-to-standard, predefined categories and sizes or create * your own categories and sizes the way you want to.

The ready-to-use Album types, which conform to printing and binding industry standards, come in six major variants. Each of these categories has multiple size options and you can choose the size that suits the Album you want to design.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.



'Select Album' window - Predefined Categories and their Sizes

- ❖ **Ruby:** Lets you design personalized digital cover and choose your individual page design, printed on offset paper. It comes in the following sizes (in inches): 9 X 12, 10 X 10, 10 X 14, 12 X 9, 12 X 12, 12 X 15, 12 X 18, 15 X 12 and 18 X 12.
- ❖ **Topaz:** Lets you decide the individual page design, printed on offset paper. You can add ready cover on album pages after printing. It comes in the following sizes (in inches): 9 X 12, 10 X 10, 10 X 14, 12 X 9, 12 X 12, 12 X 15, 12 X 18, 15 X 12 and 18 X 12.
- ❖ **Diamond:** You have the option of personalizing your cover and the layout follows a panoramic page design, printed on photographic paper. The available sizes (in inches) are: 8 X 12, 10 X 20, 10 X 28, 12 X 18, 12 X 24, 12 X 30, 12 X 36, 15 X 30, 18 X 24 and 20 X 40.
- ❖ **Opal:** Has a ready-made cover but the page design is panoramic and is printed on photographic paper. The available sizes (in inches) are: 8 X 12, 10 X 20, 10 X 28, 12 X 18, 12 X 24, 12 X 30, 12 X 36, 15 X 30, 18 X 24 and 20 X 40.

- ❖ **Emerald:** You have the option of personalizing your cover and the layout follows a panoramic page design, printed on offset paper. In addition, you could export the pages individually. The sizes (in inches) are: 10 X 20, 10 X 28, 12 X 18, 12 X 24, 12 X 30 and 12 X 36.
- ❖ **Sapphire:** Has a ready-made cover but the page design is panoramic and you could export the pages individually, printed on offset paper. The sizes (in inches) are: 10 X 20, 10 X 28, 12 X 18, 12 X 24, 12 X 30 and 12 X 36.

Table: The details and specifications of each predefined categories and subcategories

Page size	Page starts from	Page style	Cover	Cover size
Ruby				
9 X 12	Left	Page	Personalize	11 X 28
10 X 10	Left	Page	Personalize	12 X 24
10 X 14	Left	Page	Personalize	12 X 32
12 X 9	Left	Page	Personalize	14 X 22
12 X 12	Left	Page	Personalize	14 X 28
12 X 15	Left	Page	Personalize	14 X 34
12 X 18	Left	Page	Personalize	14 X 40
15 X 12	Left	Page	Personalize	17 X 28
18 X 12	Left	Page	Personalize	20 X 28
Topaz				
9 X 12	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
10 X 10	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
10 X 14	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
12 X 9	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
12 X 12	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
12 X 15	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
12 X 18	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
15 X 12	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
18 X 12	Right	Page	Ready-made	—
Diamond				
8 X 12	Left	Spread	Personalize	10 X 16
10 X 20	Left	Spread	Personalize	12 X 24
10 X 28	Left	Spread	Personalize	12 X 32
12 X 18	Left	Spread	Personalize	14 X 22
12 X 24	Left	Spread	Personalize	14 X 28
12 X 30	Left	Spread	Personalize	14 X 34
12 X 36	Left	Spread	Personalize	14 X 40
15 X 30	Left	Spread	Personalize	17 X 34
18 X 24	Left	Spread	Personalize	20 X 28
20 X 40	Left	Spread	Personalize	22 X 44
Opal				
8 X 12	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
10 X 20	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
10 X 28	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
12 X 18	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
12 X 24	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
12 X 30	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
12 X 36	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
15 X 30	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—

18 X 24	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
20 X 40	Left	Spread	Ready-made	—
Emerald				
10 X 20	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	14 X 40
10 X 28	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	14 X 34
12 X 18	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	14 X 28
12 X 24	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	14 X 22
12 X 30	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	12 X 32
12 X 36	Left	Spread-Split	Personalize	12 X 24
Sapphire				
10 X 20	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—
10 X 28	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—
12 X 18	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—
12 X 24	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—
12 X 30	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—
12 X 36	Right	Spread-Split	Ready-made	—








Digital World for Still & Motion Imaging

4.2. Predefined Album Styles

Album Xpress gives you five styles for album creation. They are Perfect, Auto, Eco, Ready Album and Manual. Each style has its own features and functionality. Let's have a look on how each style is unique and different.

When you define any custom size in 'Create Album' window or when you choose any category and size from 'Ready Size' option and then you click on 'Next' button to go to the next process, you see the below window appears on the screen. This window gives you the choice to choose album style for the album.

- ❖ **Perfect Album:** Perfect album is for those who love to see their photos arranged in the same order they were clicked. Due to this album narrates a story of the event. In Perfect Album, the software automatically selects the layout. In this style, the albums are designed near to perfect, as you always wanted to see. The photos get into the album without any cut. You just need to select theme and photos and software will automatically design album for you.
- ❖ **Auto Album:** Auto Album is an automatic album creation wizard. You can get a ready designed album with this option. You can select different template for every page of the album. You can do page wise photo selection. Software indicates you by a tag on it that on which page that photo is going to be placed. You can sort the photos accordingly. Software automatically set the photo in the selected template.
- ❖ **Eco Album:** The main feature of Eco Album is all the photos get set in the same size chosen by you. You get two options for photo size i.e. small or medium. Album Xpress generates the album automatically. The orientation of photos remained unchanged. Vertical photos are set in vertical format and horizontal photos are set in horizontal format.
- ❖ **Ready Album:** In Ready Album style, you get readymade album designs of various themes and they are event based. You just need to select the album and photos and your album is ready.
- ❖ **Manual Album:** This Album style is unique in many ways. Firstly, you get full control over page design. Secondly, you can use ready to use templates. You get various tools for page-based designing like background, masks, shapes and cliparts and so on. You can create or compose page with your own terms using your own backgrounds, cliparts and even your own templates. You can also do manual page composition in this style.

	<p>Perfect</p> <p>Automatic Album layouting as per selected photos. No Photo Cuts. Just choose Theme and Photos.</p>
	<p>Auto</p> <p>Album Creation Wizard where you can choose Templates and then Photos on every page.</p>
	<p>Eco</p> <p>All Photos are of equal size. You may choose smaller or bigger photo size. Vertical Photos will be vertical and horizontal will be horizontal.</p>
	<p>Ready Album</p> <p>Album Creation wizard where you can choose Ready Album and then select photos on every page.</p>
	<p>Manual</p> <p>Complete freedom to design your own Album using Templates or creating your own compositions.</p>

Predefined Album Styles

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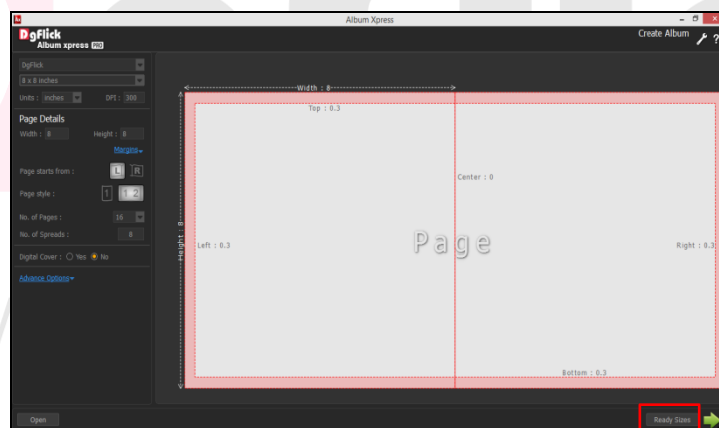
4.3. Create, Edit & Delete Categories

Album Xpress has a wide variety of predefined categories for Albums (refer section Predefined Categories and Sizes). However, in case the Album category you have in mind is not among the standard categories, you could create your own category and save it for reuse, edit it or delete it as per your requirement. This section will let you know about creating, editing and deleting the predefined categories in detail.



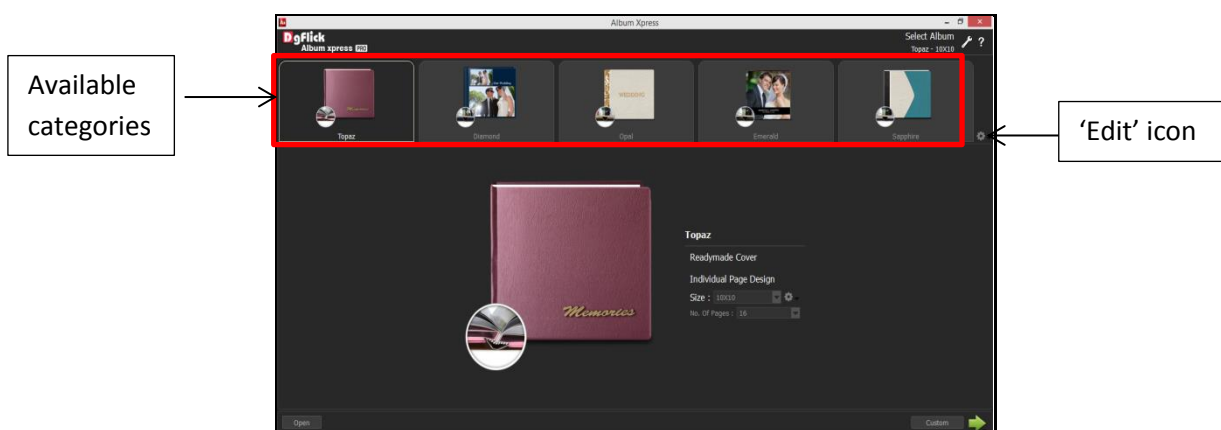
4.3.1. Creating a Category

- ❖ Click on 'Ready Sizes' button on 'Create Album' window to view available Album categories and sizes.



'Create Album' window

- ❖ At the top of the screen, you see the available categories in the Album Xpress.



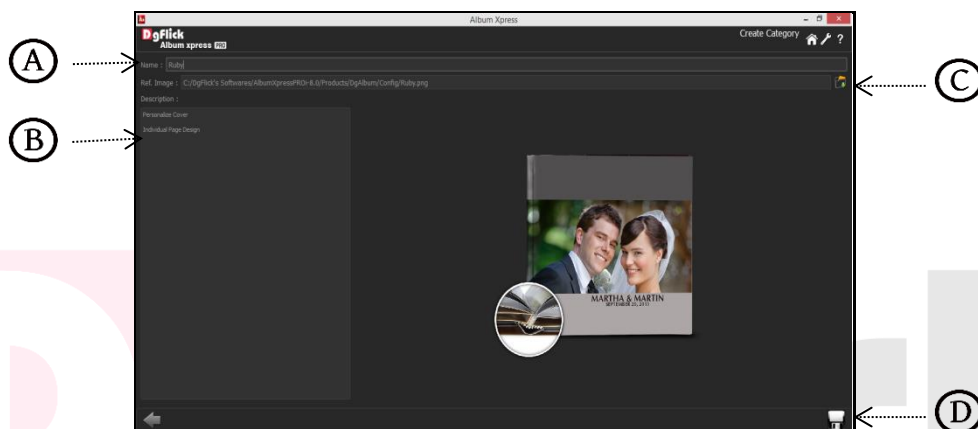
'Select Album' window - Predefined Categories

- ❖ You get an 'Edit' icon at the end of the categories trail.
- ❖ Click on the 'Edit' icon. You will see Add, Edit and Delete option.
- ❖ Select the 'Add' option to add a new category in the 'Select Album' window.
- ❖ On the next 'Create Category' window, fill in the fields corresponding to the,

'Name': (A) The name you want for your new Category.

'Ref. Image': The image you want for your Category, clicking on the 'Browse' icon (C) to the right of this field lets you choose the reference image from the path in which you saved it.

'Description': (B) Give a description of the category you are creating.

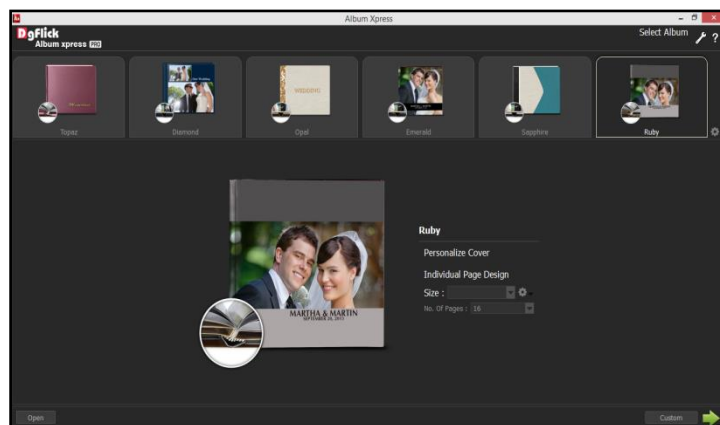


The 'Create Category' window

- ❖ Click on 'Save' icon (D), on the lower right-hand corner to save the category you created.

! Leaving either the 'Name' or the 'Ref. Image' field blank will not allow you to save the Category.

- ❖ The new category is created and can be viewed along with the predefined categories.



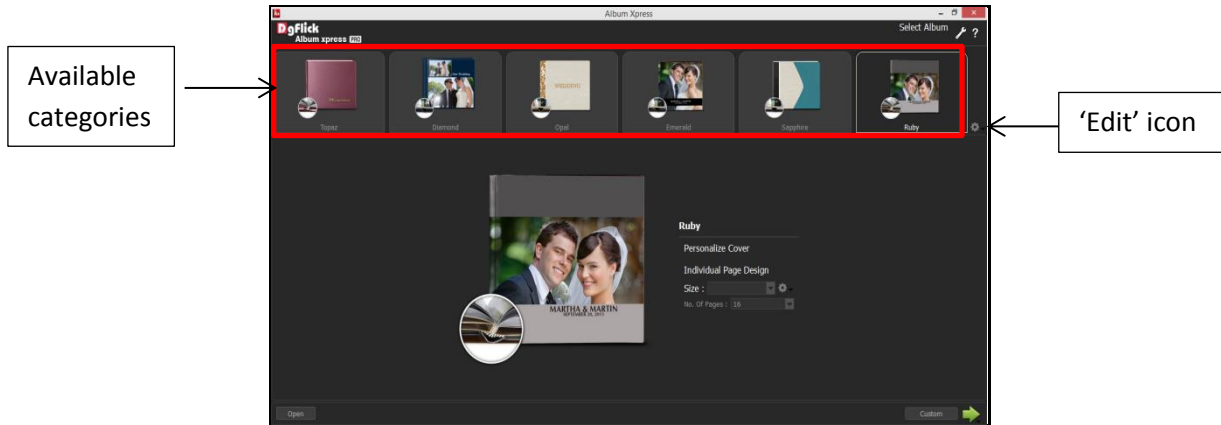
The New category added

! At any point during the process, you could click on the 'Back' button to go back to the previous window. On clicking this button, you are offered the chance to save/not to save your changes or cancel the 'Back' command. You could also click on 'Home' to go back to the home page.



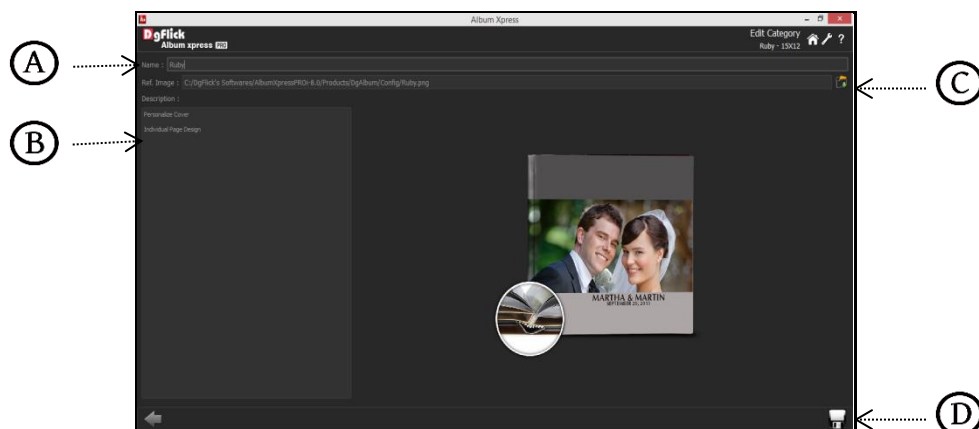
4.3.2. Editing a Category

- ❖ At the top of the screen, you see the available categories in the Album Xpress.



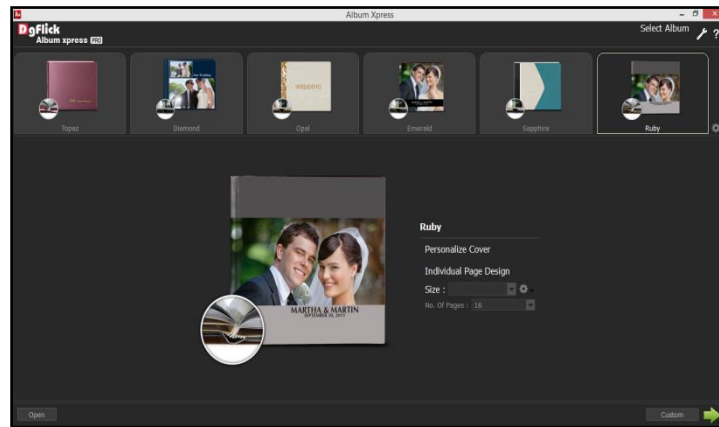
'Select Album' window - Predefined Categories

- ❖ You get an 'Edit' icon at the end of the categories trail.
- ❖ Select the category you want to edit. Click on the 'Edit' icon. You will see Add, Edit and Delete option.
- ❖ Select the 'Edit' option to edit selected category in the 'Select Album' window.
- ❖ On the next 'Edit Category' window, you can add your edits to the,
 'Name': (A) Edit the name as per your choice.
 'Ref. Image': Change the image you want for your Category, clicking on the 'Browse' icon (C) to the right of this field lets you choose the reference image from the path in which you saved it.
 'Description': (B) Change the description of the category as per your choice.



The 'Edit Category' window

- ❖ Click on 'Save' icon (D), on the lower right-hand corner to save the changes.



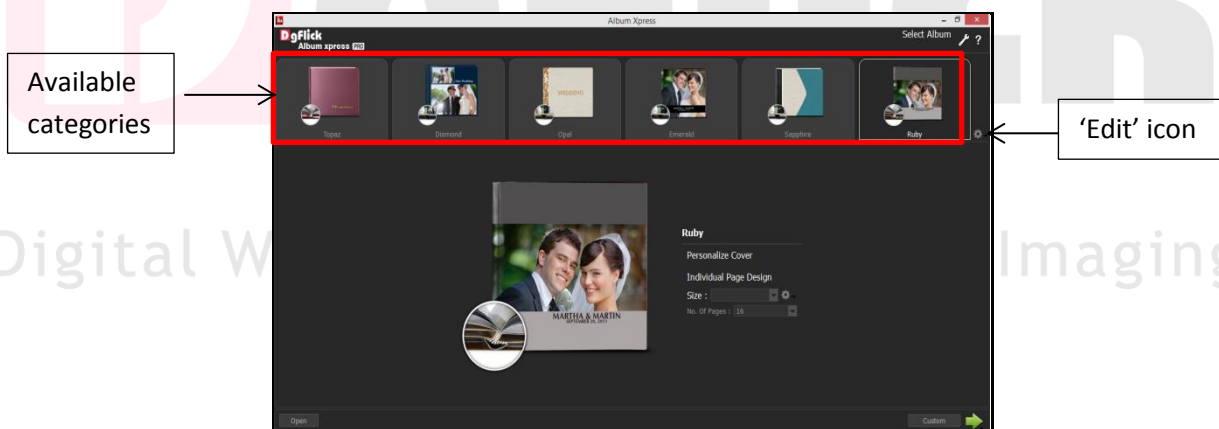
The category edited

! At any point during the process, you could click on the back button to go back to the previous window. On clicking this button, you are offered the chance to save/not save your changes or cancel the 'Back' command. You could also click on 'Home' to go back to the home page.



4.3.3. Deleting a Category

- ❖ At the top of the screen, you see the available categories in the Album Xpress.



'Select Album' window - Predefined Categories

- ❖ You get an 'Edit' icon at the end of the categories trail.
- ❖ Select the category you want to delete permanently. Click on the 'Edit' icon. You will see Add, Edit and Delete option.
- ❖ Select the 'Delete' option to delete selected category in the 'Select Album' window.
- ❖ A dialog box asking if you are sure, you want to delete it appears on the screen.
- ❖ Clicking on 'Yes' deletes the category permanently; clicking on 'No' aborts the operation.

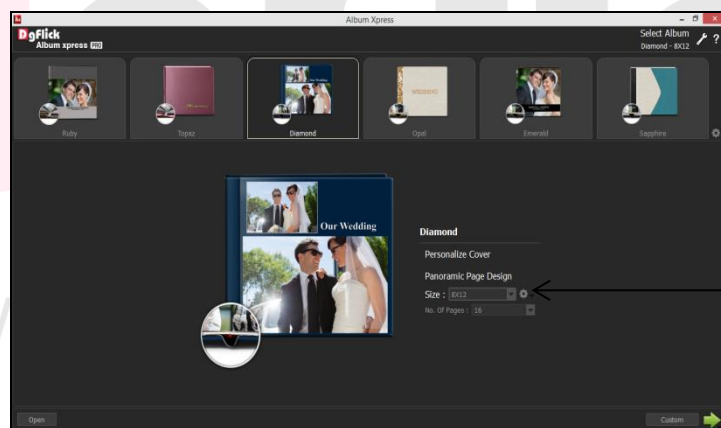
4.4. Create, Edit & Delete Sizes

Apart from the categories, you can also create, edit and delete sizes in Album Xpress. You get a freedom of designing album in your own size. You can define your own custom album parameters such as Cover, Page and Size. This section will let you know about creating, editing and deleting the predefined sizes in detail.



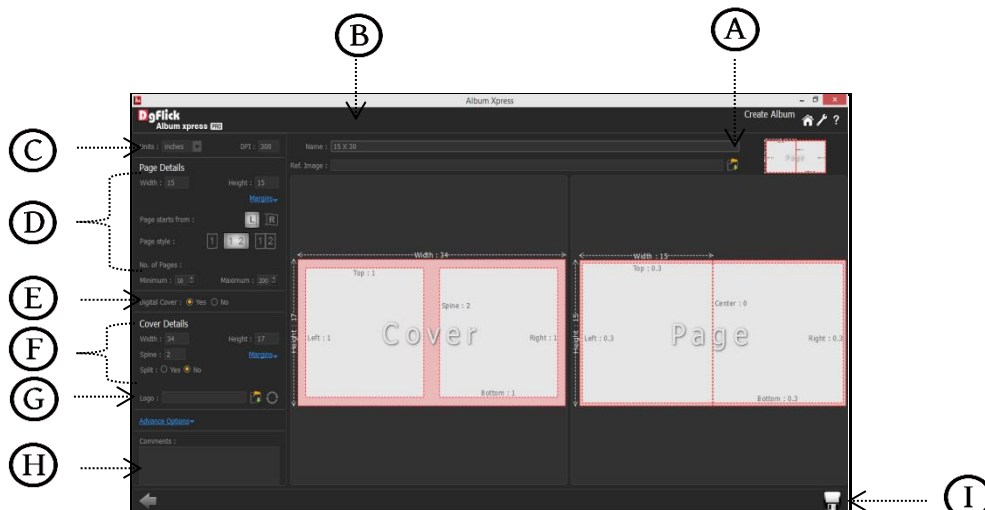
4.4.1. Creating a Size

- ❖ Whenever you select any category, available sizes are displayed in a drop down menu in the 'Select Album' window.





'Select Album' window – drop down menu of the available sizes

- ❖ You get an 'Edit' icon given in front of the drop down menu.
- ❖ Select the category in which you want to add new size. Click on the 'Edit' icon. You will see Add, Edit and Delete option.
- ❖ Select the 'Add' option to add a new size in the selected category.
- ❖ On the next window: 'Create Album' window, fill in the fields corresponding to the,
 - 'Name': ^(B)edit the name as per your choice.
 - 'Ref. Image': The image you want for your Size, clicking on the 'Browse' icon ^(A) to the right of this field lets you choose the reference image from the path in which you saved it.
- ❖ Define the units and DPI from here ^(C)



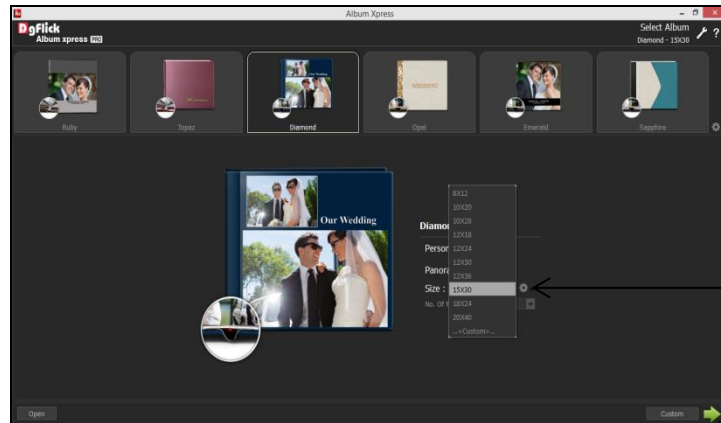
The 'Create Album' window

- ❖ Set the parameters below the Page Details^(D).
These are:
Width and Height,
Margins (Center/Left/Right/Top/Bottom),
Page start (Left/Right),
Page style (Page/Spread/Spread-Split),
Number of pages (Minimum and Maximum).
- ❖ Select the cover type from^(E) Digital Cover (Yes/No).
- ❖ Set the parameters below the Cover details^(F).
These are:
Width and Height,
Margins (Left, Right, Top and Bottom),
Spine and Split.
- ❖ Set the logo for Album from 'Logo' option^(G). Browse from  and set the logo. Reset the logo from .
- ❖ Set cameo and jacket parameters from 'Advance options'.
- ❖ You could type your comments in the 'Comment' box^(H).
- ❖ Click on 'Save' icon^(I) on the lower right-hand corner to save the size you created.
- ❖ The new Album size is created and can be viewed along with the other Album sizes.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

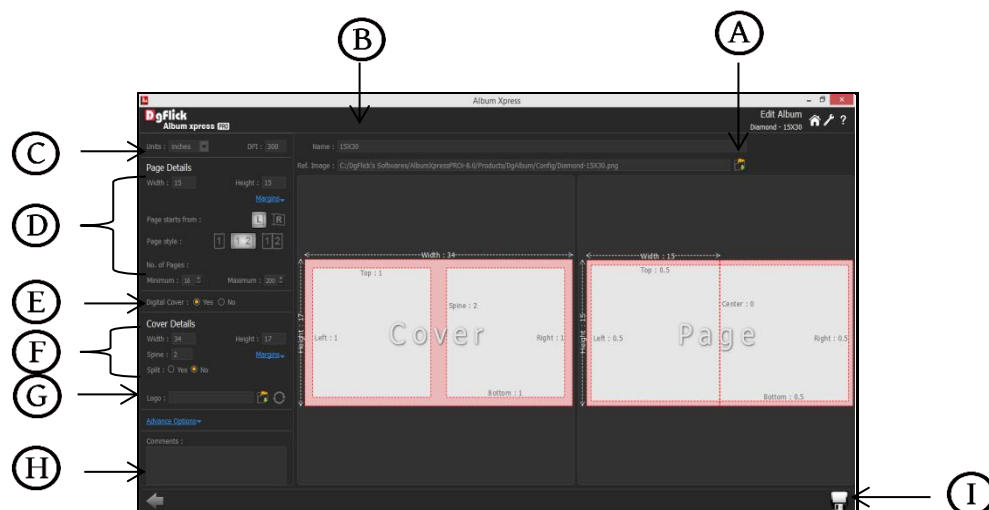
4.4.2. Editing a Size

- ❖ Whenever you select any category, available sizes are displayed in a drop down menu in the 'Select Album' window.



'Select Album' window – drop down menu of the available sizes

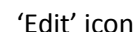
- ❖ You get an 'Edit' icon given in front of the drop down menu.
- ❖ Select the size, which you want to edit. Click on the 'Edit' icon. You will see Add, Edit and Delete option.
- ❖ Select the 'Edit' option to edit selected size in the selected category.
- ❖ On the next window: 'Edit Album' window, you can make changes to the,
 - 'Name': ^(B) Edit the name as per your choice.
 - 'Ref. Image': Change the image you want for your Size, clicking on the 'Browse' icon ^(A) to the right of this field lets you choose the reference image from the path in which you saved it.
- ❖ Define the units and DPI from here ^(C).



The 'Edit Album' window

- Note:** Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

- ## Digital World for Still & Motion Imaging



'Select Album' window – drop down menu of the available sizes

- ❖ Select the 'Delete' option to delete selected size in the selected category.

- ❖ A dialog box asking if you are sure, you want to delete it appears on the screen.
- ❖ Clicking on 'Yes' deletes the size permanently; clicking on 'No' aborts the operation.



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5.0. Exploring the World of Designing – Design Albums

In previous section, we learnt about managing album categories. In this section, we will learn how to create Albums.

5.1. Auto Album Creation

5.1.1. Create Album with Custom Size

5.1.2. Eco Album Creation

5.1.3. Auto Album Creation

5.1.4. Ready Album Creation

5.2. Manual Album Creation

5.3. Manage the Photos

5.4. Resizing the Album

5.1. Automatic Album Creation

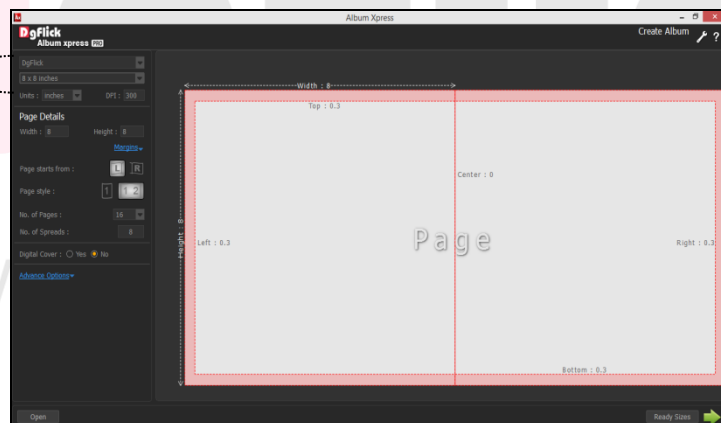
Once you have modified or customized categories according to your requirements, it is time to move on to the actual process of Album creation. Album Xpress gives you the option of designing the Album in four auto ways. Perfect, Auto, Eco and Ready Album.



5.1.1. Create Perfect Album with Custom Sizes


Album Creation with Custom Sizes using Album Xpress is a fast and user-friendly process, with an interactive interface. It is supported by wizard, which makes your task simpler. Additionally, you could swap pages and photos and view the Album you have created.

Drop Down menu to access ready sizes of various types

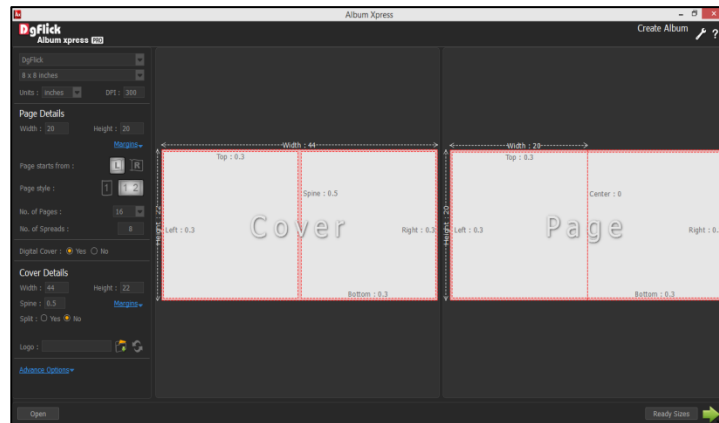


'Create Album' window



The Process

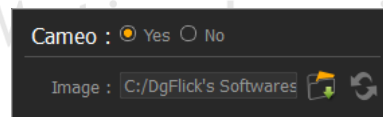
- ❖ Once you open the Album Xpress software, the first screen you see is 'Create Album' window.
- ❖ On this window, you can create custom sizes of Album.
- ❖ More than 10 sizes get stored in this option.
- ❖ You will see two drop downs in this window. Either you choose sizes from given printing sizes in first drop down menu.
- ❖ If you choose any predefined type from first drop down, you will see the sizes offered by selected type in the second drop down. By clicking on  icon, you can get the info about the selected type.


- ❖ You can also create your custom size by choosing DgFlick type and defining your parameters.
- ❖ Here create size as per your need. (Refer section Creating a category and size)

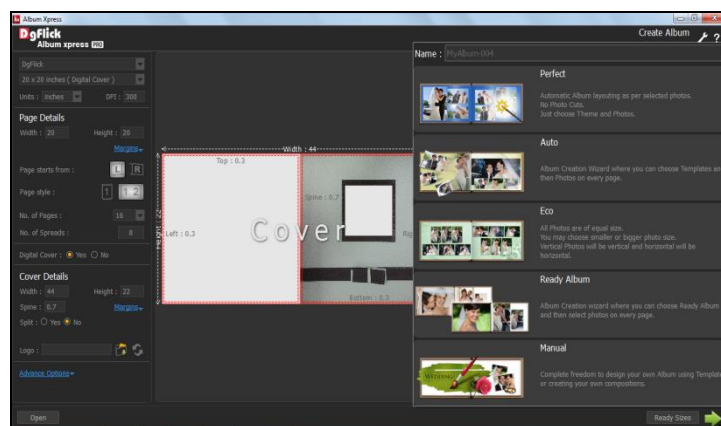


Adding new custom size for the Album

- ❖ If you select left style, you will see the number of spreads you need to design in selected number of pages. If you select right option, the number of spreads will change. The spreads will bifurcate in three parts. The indicator at the middle of the field shows total spreads and the indicators at the left and right side indicates the left and right individual pages that you need to design.
- ❖ If you select spread style, you will see the number of spreads you need to design in selected number of pages.
- ❖ Number of spread will get updated automatically if you change number of pages.
- ❖ Set cameo and jacket from 'Advance options'.
- ❖ If you want cameo cover, select 'Yes' option under 'Cameo'.
- ❖ Browse from  and set the cameo image. Reset the cameo image from .

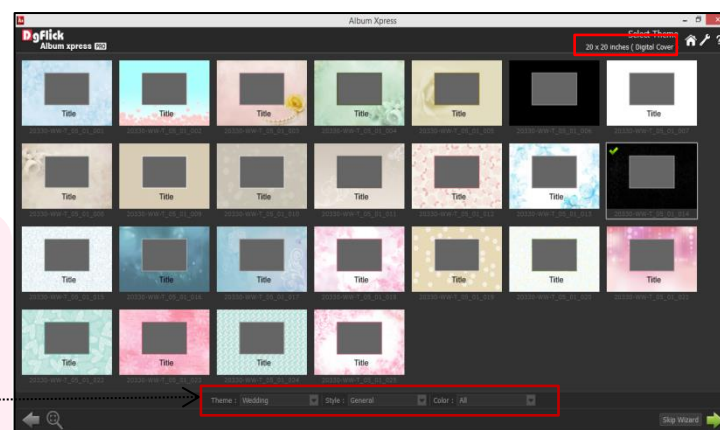


- ❖ Here cameo image is selected and jacket option is kept off.
- ❖ After you add parameters for new custom size, click on 'Next' button  to select style of Album creation.



Choosing Album style

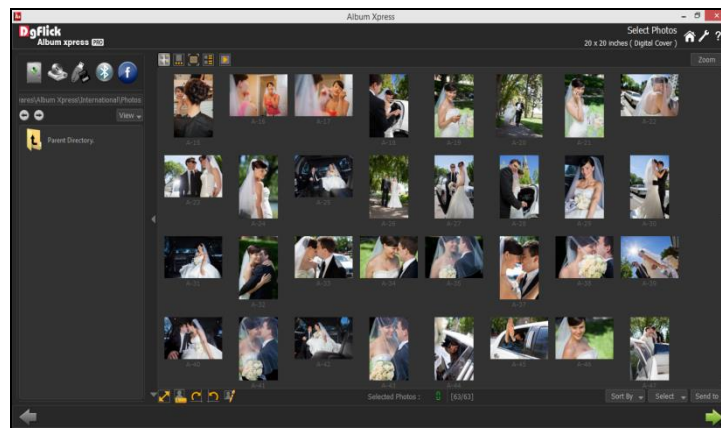
- ❖ In the 'Name' space, you can define the name, which you want to display on the cover and the spine of the album. Once you mention the name here, it automatically appears on the place.
- ❖ If you have kept Jacket option on, the name will appear on jacket and cover as well.
- ❖ Here we will go with Perfect Album creation style.
- ❖ Album Xpress will try to create a perfect Album for you by automatically placing the photos on the pages in the order they were clicked.
- ❖ After selecting Album style, you will be redirected to 'Select Theme' window.
- ❖ You can see custom size details in top right hand corner of 'Select Theme' window.



- ❖ You can sort themes in following parameters ①.
 - **Theme:** You can sort theme wise i.e. Wedding.
 - **Style:** You can sort style wise i.e. General.
 - **Color:** You can sort them color wise. You have 7 colors to sort themes.

! Additional icons on the page: clicking on 'Adjust Thumbnail Size' icon ② allow you to alter the size of the thumbnails.

- ❖ If you select 'Skip Wizard' option ③, you will be redirected to 'Design Album' window where you will have to add photos manually into the selected theme.
OR
- ❖ If you haven't selected any theme and you select 'Skip Wizard' option ③, then you will be redirected to 'Design Album' window for manual creation of Album.
- ❖ After selecting theme, continue the process with 'Next' button ④.
- ❖ Now you are in 'Select Photos' window.



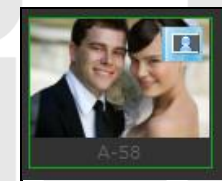
'Select Photos' window

❖ 'Selected Photos' shows the number of photos selected.

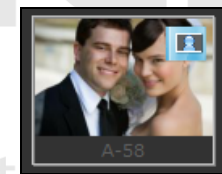
❖ Select the required photos; the selected ones have the green box on the photo.



❖ To select the photo for cover, click on the icon on the top right hand corner of the photo.



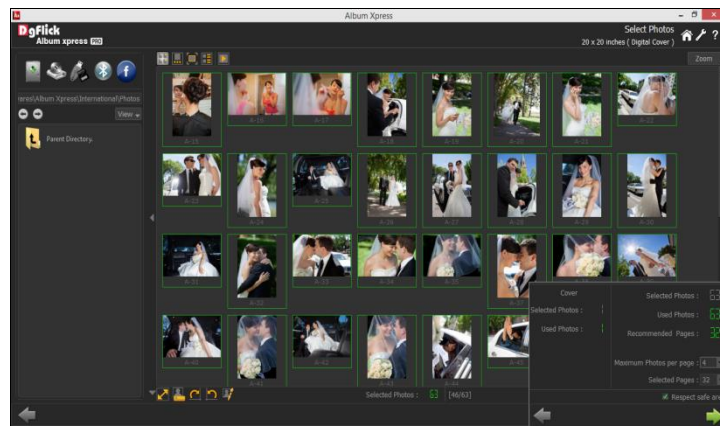
❖ If you want to select a photo only for your cover and not for your inner pages of Album then deselect the photo. The photo will appear like this.



❖ Select the photos for the Album and continue the process with 'Next' button. You will see a confirmation window showing information about selected photos and pages.

❖ Left side of confirmation window is showing details about selected and used photos for cover page and right side is showing the selected photos, used photos and the required pages for the Album. Set Maximum photos per page. Change the selected pages according to the pages recommended.

❖ Check the 'Respect safe area' if you want to maintain safe margins around the page.



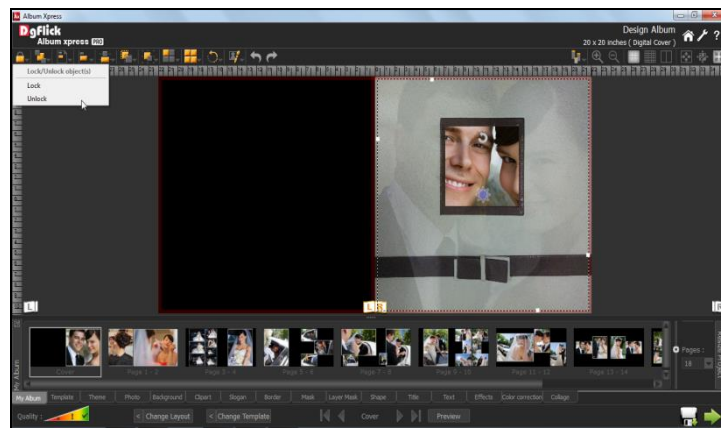
'Select Photos' window -photos selected with confirmation window

- ❖ Once you done with page selection, click on 'Next' button.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Design Album' window where you will see the Album is ready with selected theme and photos.
- ❖ You will see album pages with album cover.
- ❖ As you have set the cameo image for the cover, the image will appear on the cover page of the album.®



Cameo image on cover of the album

- ❖ If while selecting the photos for the album, if you have marked any photo for the cover of the album, then it will appear on the cover of the page.
- ❖ Select the photo and unlock it from 'Lock/Unlock Objects' tab.



Unlocking photo from 'Lock/Unlock Objects'

- ❖ Move the image and bring it to the empty part of the cameo. You can zoom and pan the image to set it within the available area.

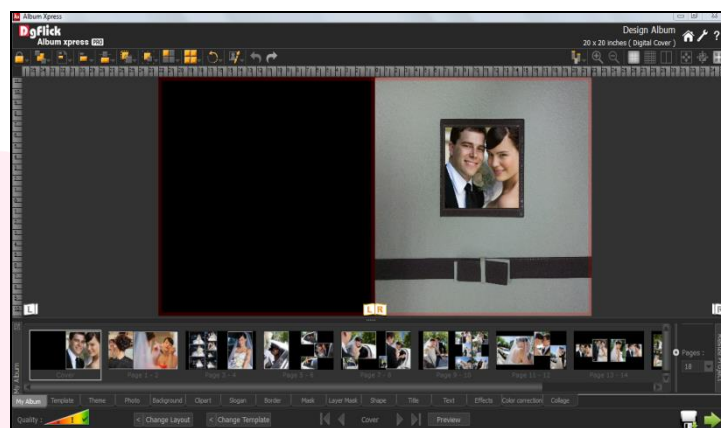


Image adjusted in the given area


- ❖ You may change or remove the background from the 'Background' tab.
- ❖ You can view the other pages of the album by navigating the pages.



'Design Album' window - Album is ready

- ❖ With 'Change Layout' button, you can change layout of the page. With every click, Album Xpress will automatically generate a new layout for your page.
- ❖ You can also change the layout of individual left or right page.



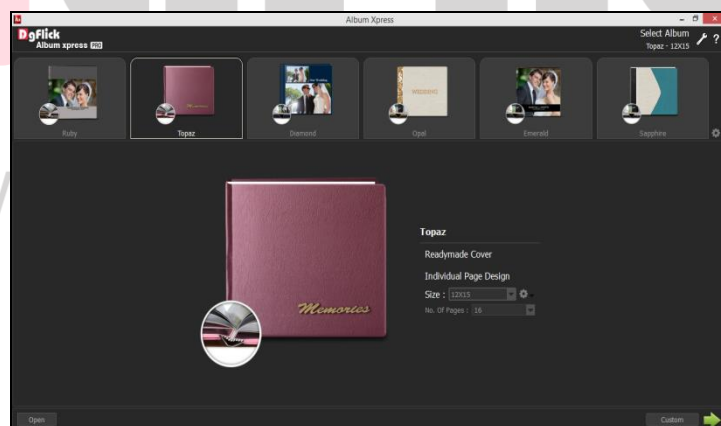
- ❖ You can apply the previous layout with the help of the 'Previous' icon  available just behind the 'Change Layout' option.
- ❖ In this way, you are done with Perfect Album. You can save and export it. (Refer section Saving and Exporting)




5.1.2. ECO Album Creation

In Eco Album, the photos will be arranged in a traditional size on all the pages. It gives you two options for selection of photo size i.e. small and medium size.

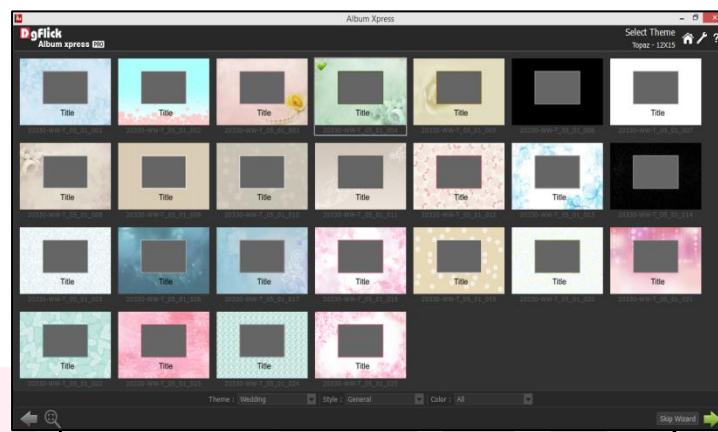
- ❖ In 'Create Album' window, click on 'Ready Sizes' button at bottom right hand corner of the window to select standard categories and sizes for the Album or create custom size. (Refer section Create Perfect Album with Custom Sizes)



'Select Album' window

- ❖ Select the category of your choice and select the album size.
- ❖ You can choose no of pages for Album from 'No. of pages' drop down box.
- ❖ Once you are done with category and size selection, select the Album style – Eco and continue the process with 'Next' button .
- ❖ When you select Eco style, the software asks size for the photos.
- ❖ You have two options to decide photo size small and medium.

- ❖ Select the desired size and click on 'OK'.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Select Theme' window where you can choose theme for the Album.
- ❖ If you select 'Skip Wizard' option^②, you will be redirected to 'Design Album' window where you will have to add photos manually into the selected theme.
OR
- ❖ If you haven't selected any theme and you choose 'Skip Wizard' option^②, then you will be redirected to 'Design Album' window for manual creation of Album.

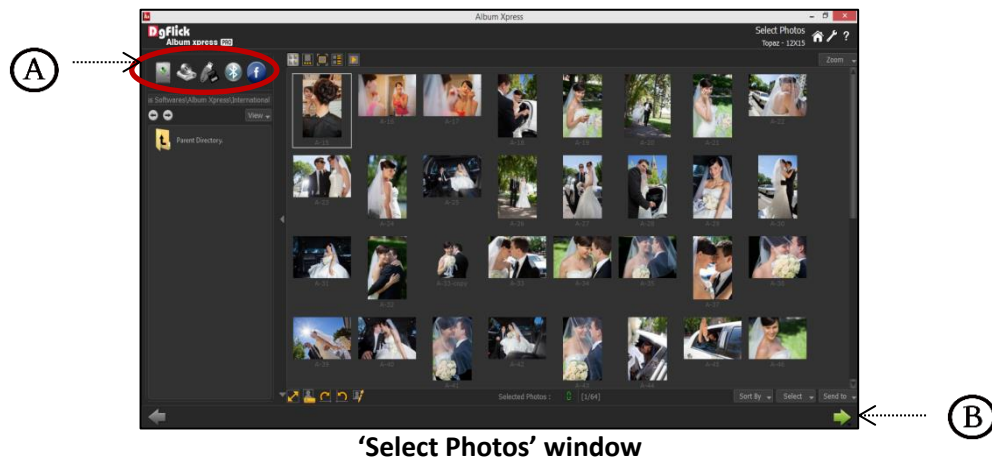


'Select Theme' window

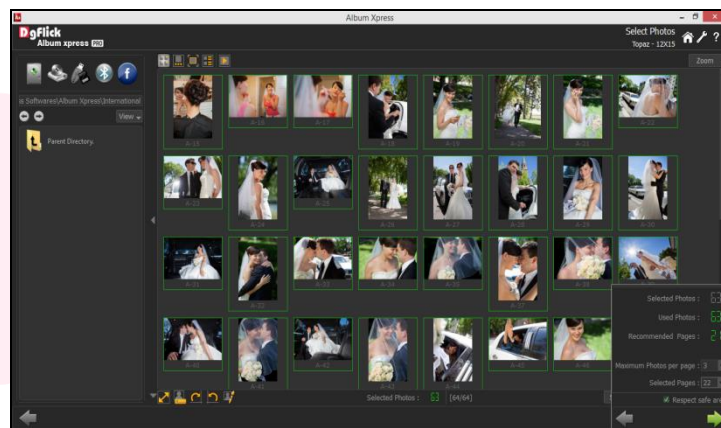
! Additional icons on the page: clicking on 'Adjust Thumbnail Size' icon^① allow you to alter the size of the thumbnails.

- ❖ After selecting theme, continue the process with 'Next' button^③.
- ❖ You have the option of selecting the photos from the[Ⓐ]

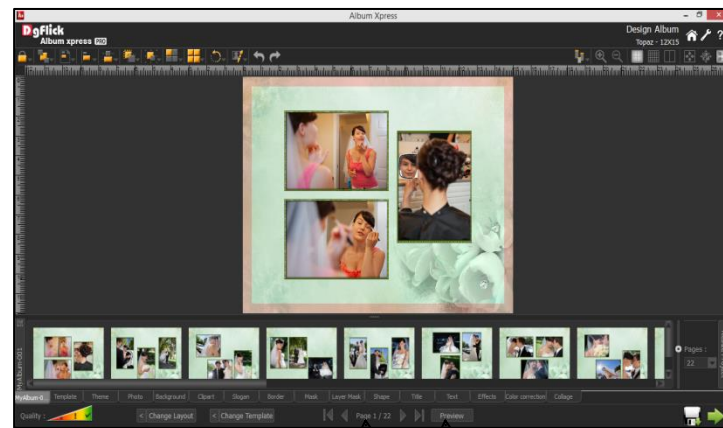
Hard disk	CD/DVD	USB	Bluetooth	Facebook
-----------	--------	-----	-----------	----------
- ❖ You can make changes to the photos using the options listed at the bottom of the page. (For details refer Section Manage the Photos)
- ❖ 'Selected Photos' option shows the number of photos selected.



- ❖ Select the photos for the Album and move on to the next process with 'Next' button ^(B).
- ❖ You will see a confirmation window where following information will be displayed.



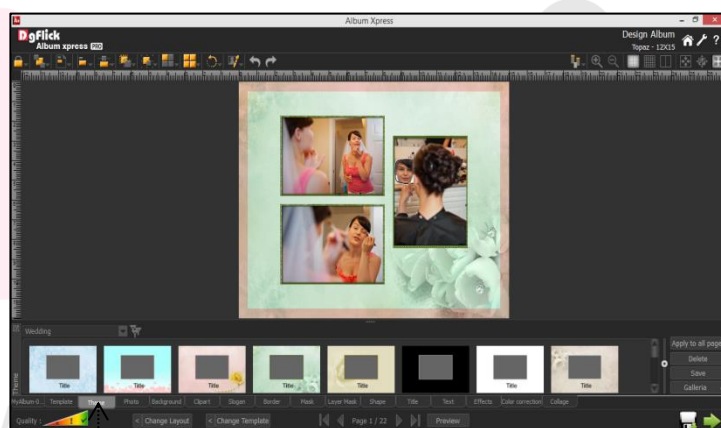
- ❖ Confirmation window is showing the selected photos, actually used photos and the required pages for the Album. Set Maximum photos per page. Change the selected pages according to the pages recommended.
- ❖ Check the Respect safe area if you want to maintain safe margins around the photo.
- ❖ Once you done with all the setting, continue the process with 'Next' Button.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Design Album' window.
- ❖ You can see that the Album is ready with selected theme and photos.
- ❖ You can change photos or swap photos with each other.
- ❖ With 'Preview' button, ⁽²⁾ you can see preview of Album.
- ❖ With this navigator ⁽¹⁾, you can navigate through pages of Album.



① ②


'Design Album' window - Album is created

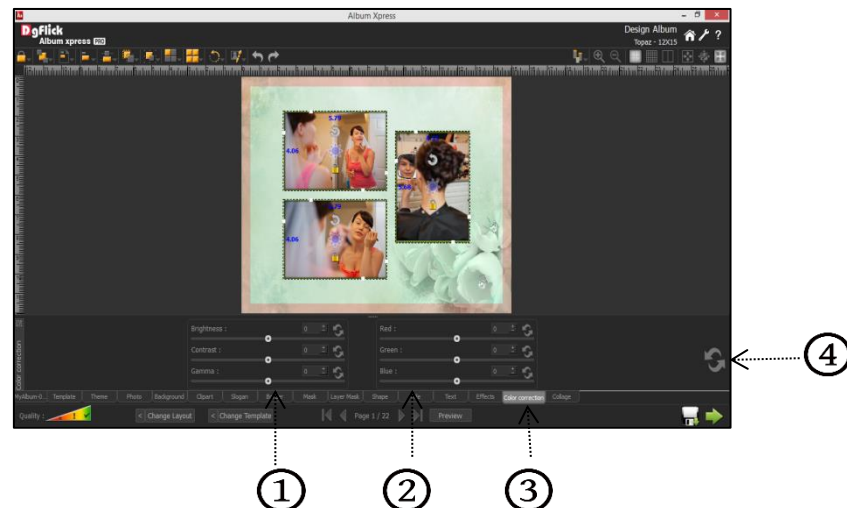
- ❖ With the 'Theme' tab [Ⓐ], you can change the theme of the album.
- ❖ In 'Theme' tab, you will find various options to apply the themes.



'Create Design' window – 'Theme' tab

Ⓐ

- ❖ You can filter the themes from  icon. You will find various options to filter themes.
- ❖ You can double click or drag and drop the theme to apply it on current page.
- ❖ You can apply same theme on all the pages of the album.
- ❖ To apply same theme on all the pages of the album, select the desired theme and then click on 'Apply to all pages' button. You will see that the selected theme has been applied on all the pages of the album.
- ❖ You can get more or import themes and can also save, build and share your own themes from 'Theme' tab. (refer section Customize your Template and Theme)
- ❖ 'Color Correction' tab ^③ helps you to color correct photos instantly. The instant color correction feature helps you to color correct photos according to the background.
- ❖ You can color correct multiple photos at a time. Select the photos you wish to color correct.



'Design Album' window - 'Color Correction' tab

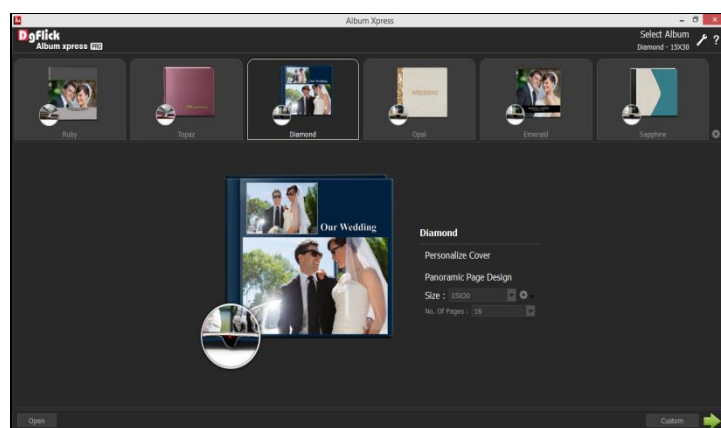
- ❖ From 'Brightness, Contrast and Gamma' sliders ①, you can adjust the brightness, contrast and gamma of the photos.
- ❖ To adjust the red, green and blue value of the photos, use the 'Red, Green and Blue' sliders ②.
- ❖ From 'Reset all' button ④, you can reset all the color corrections in single click.
- ❖ In this way, the Album is ready. You can save and export it. (Refer section Saving and Exporting)




5.1.3. Auto Album Creation

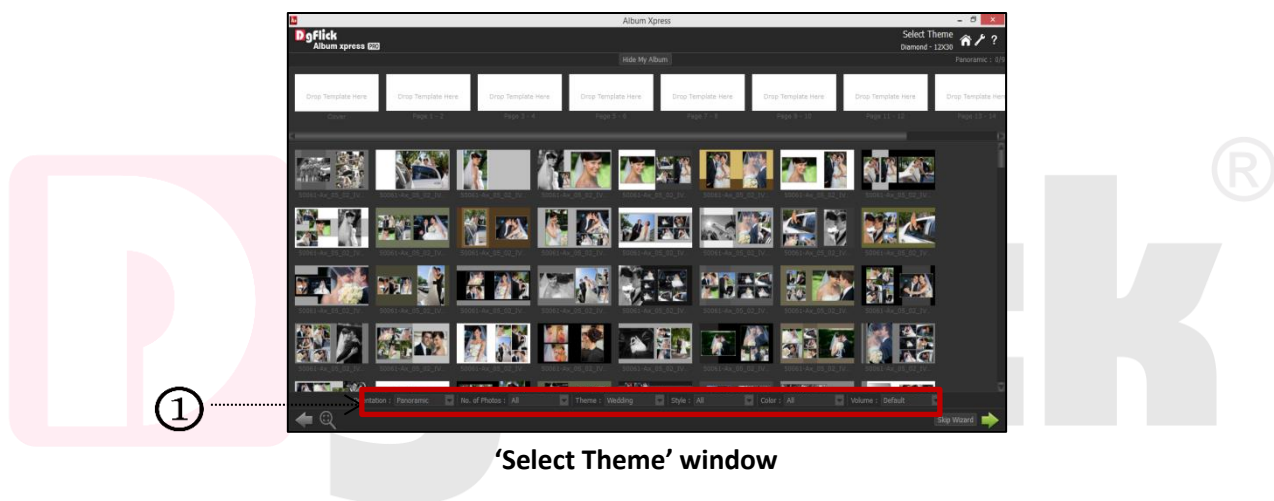
Album Xpress helps you to design and create the Album of your choice. It allows you to sort, select and sequence templates and photos while planning your page layout and decors.

- ❖ In 'Create Album' window, click on 'Ready Sizes' button at bottom right hand corner of the window to select standard categories and sizes for the Album or create custom size. (Refer section Create Perfect Album with Custom Sizes)
- ❖ In 'Select Album' window, select the category for the Album.



'Select Album' window

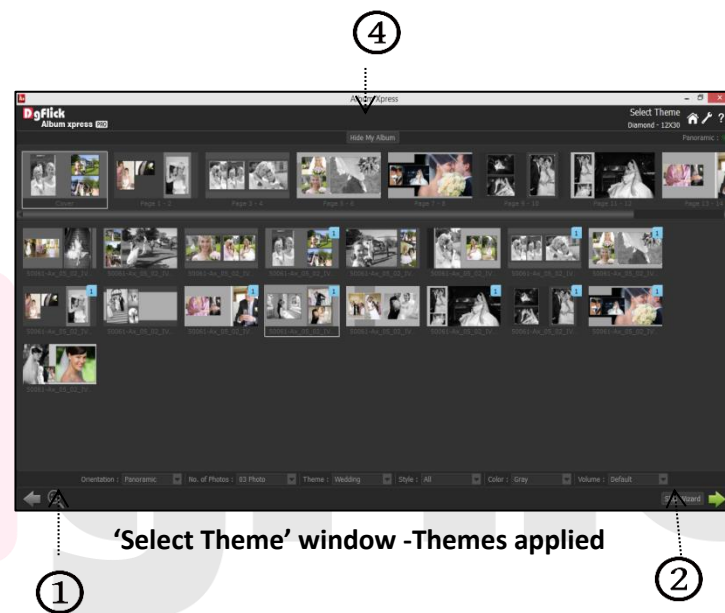
- ❖ Here we have selected Diamond Category.
- ❖ Select the album size from the 'Size' drop down menu.
- ❖ You can choose no of pages for Album from 'No. of Pages' option.
- ❖ Once you select the Album size, you can continue the process with 'Next' button . You will be asked to select the Album style. Select the Album style – Auto.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Select Theme' window.
- ❖ You can see preview of blank cover and Album pages here.
- ❖ Below preview, you can see available themes (templates) for the Album.



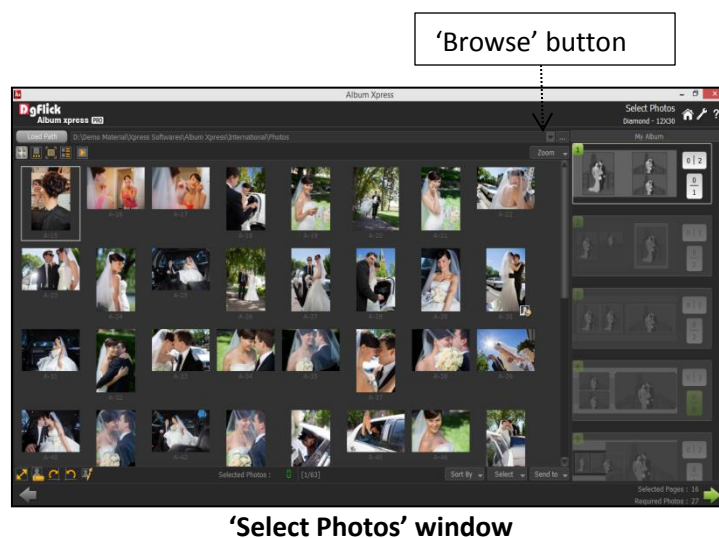
- ❖ You have different sorting options by which you can sort themes ^①. They are as follows:
 - **Orientation:** You can sort themes orientation wise i.e. cover, extra panoramic, landscape, panoramic, portrait and square.
 - **No. of photos:** You can sort themes no of photo wise i.e. from one photo per theme until 13 photos per theme.
 - **Theme:** You can sort templates theme wise i.e. wedding.
 - **Style:** You can sort themes style wise i.e. creative and simple.
 - **Color:** You can sort themes color wise. We have provided 7 color options to sort.
 - **Volume:** Your imported volume of templates can be seen under volume tab.
- ❖ You need to drag and drop the themes on Album Cover and other pages to apply. You can use different templates on different pages or apply the same template manually on all the pages if you want.
- ❖ When you select the theme for any page, you will see a Blue indicator on that theme. The number in the indicator indicates number of times the theme has been used.

- ❖ If you select 'Skip Wizard' option ②, you will be redirected to 'Design Album' window where you will have to add photos manually into the selected templates.
OR
- ❖ If you haven't selected any templates and you choose 'Skip Wizard' option ②, then you will be redirected to 'design Album' window for manual creation of Album.

! Additional icons on the page: clicking on 'Adjust Thumbnail Size' icon ① allows you to alter the size of the thumbnails; clicking on 'Show My Album' option displays the revised Album pages; alternatively, 'Hide My Album' option ④ hides them.

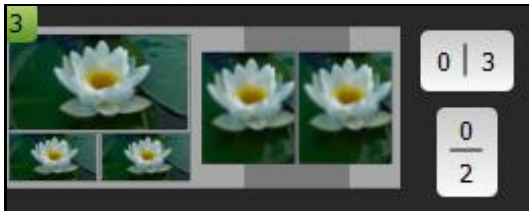


- ❖ After you select themes, click on 'Next' button ③ to go to 'Select Photos' window.
- ❖ Now you are in 'Select Photos' window.



- ❖ You can browse from the 'Browse' button and set the path of the photos you want to use in the album.

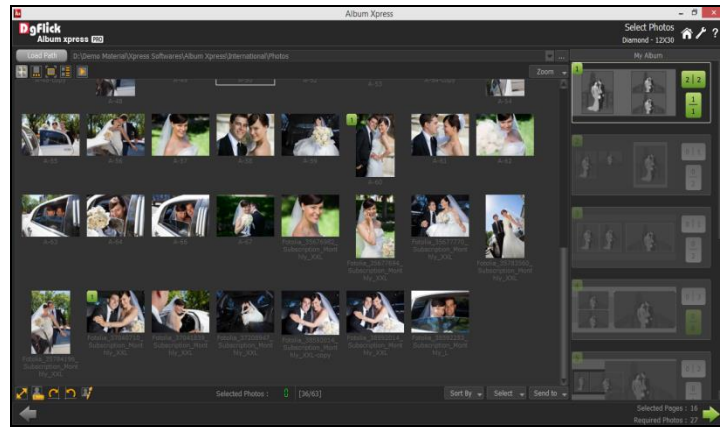
- ❖ In drop down menu that appears before 'Browse' button, you can view last accessed 15 paths.
- ❖ At the right side of the window, you will see the preview of the templates selected by you. There are some indicators on the templates, which helps you to select the photos easily. Let's learn the indicators on the templates first.



- ❖ The template appears like this. At the top left corner of the template, the page number is indicated in a green box.
- ❖ You can also know the exact photo requirement according to the orientation of the photo.
- ❖ There are two boxes on the template. First is horizontal box. 0 | 3: This indicates number of photos required of horizontal orientation. Second is vertical box 0 / 2. This indicates number of photos required of vertical orientation.
- ❖ There are two numbers in the box. The number before the '|' indicates the total number of photos selected by you. The number after '|' shows the number of photos required for this template.
- ❖ Here for example, it is indicated '0|3' means three horizontal photos are required. Whenever you select any horizontal photo by double clicking on it, the indicator changes to 1 | 3 which means 1 horizontal photo is selected out of 3.
- ❖ As you go on selecting photos, the indicator will keep on changing. Once you select the required number of photos, the indicator will turn green like this 3 | 3. It states that selection for horizontal photo is done.
- ❖ If you want, you can select mores horizontal photos, which you will see at the time of designing album. If you select any excess photo, the indicator will turn red like this. 4 | 3. You will see the count of selected photos.
- ❖ If any indicator is already green, it means no photo of that orientation is required for that template.
- ❖ Same indicators are available for vertical photos too.

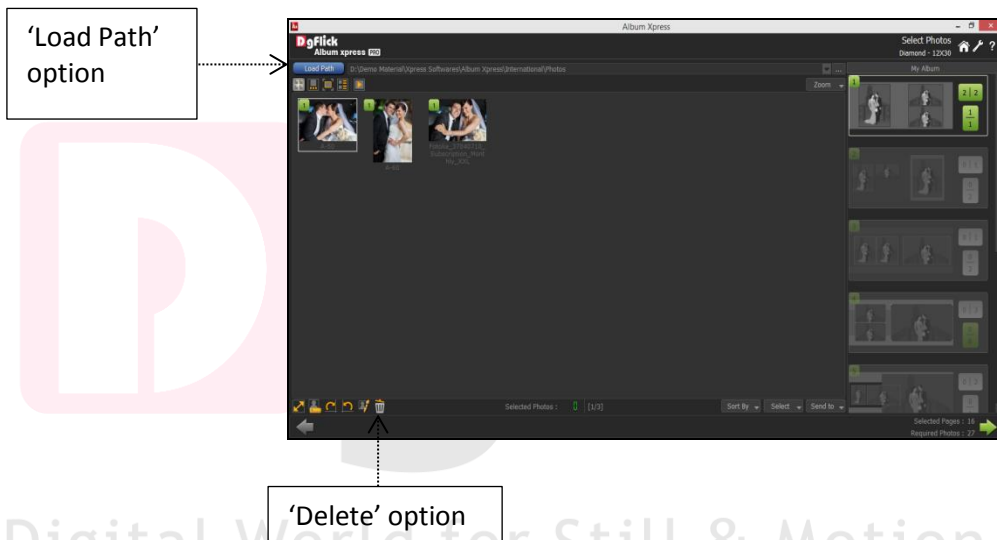


- ❖ Select the photo by double clicking on it. The selected photo gets an indicator of the page number.




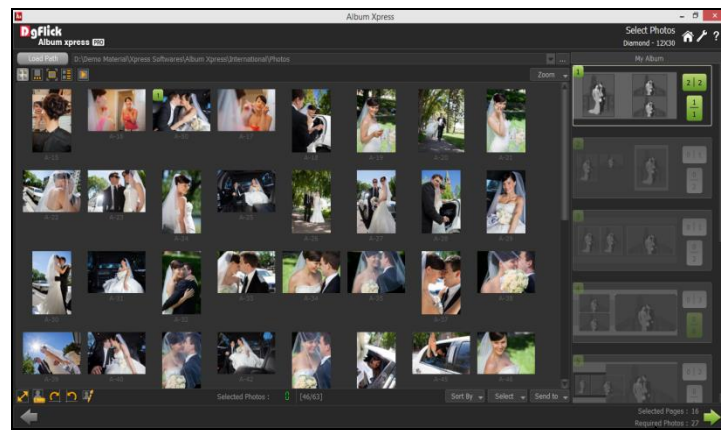
Photos selected for first template

- ❖ Whenever you select the photos for any template, you can view the photos of each template. For example, if you want to see which photos you have selected for first template, just double click on that template and you will be able to see the selected photos.



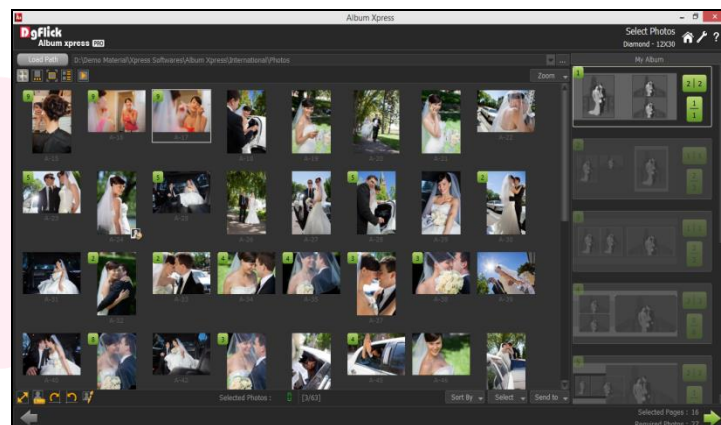
Viewing selected photos of the templates

- ❖ If you want to delete any selected photo from this template, use the 'Delete' icon  located at the bottom of the window.
- ❖ If you want to view the photos in the source path, use the 'Load Path' button. You will see all the photos.



Photos in the original folder

- ❖ If any photo is selected for multiple templates, then multiple indicators will appear on the photo.
- ❖ Select the photos you want for all the pages of the album.



Photos selected for all the album pages

- ❖ 'Selected Pages' ① shows number of pages selected and 'Required Photos' ① shows number of photos required for the album.
- ❖ Instead of selecting photos for each page, you can select photos randomly by single clicking on them.
- ❖ Once you are done with photo selection process, continue process with 'Next' option ②.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Select Album' window where you can see the Album is ready with selected themes and photos.



'Design Album' window with Auto Album

- ❖ If you want to change the template, you can use the 'Change Template' button. The template with similar number of photos will be applied.



Template changed


- ❖ You can apply the previous layout with the help of the 'Previous' icon  available just behind the 'Change Template' option.
- ❖ Now the Album is ready to save and export. (Refer section Saving and Exporting)

Photo Quality Indicator:

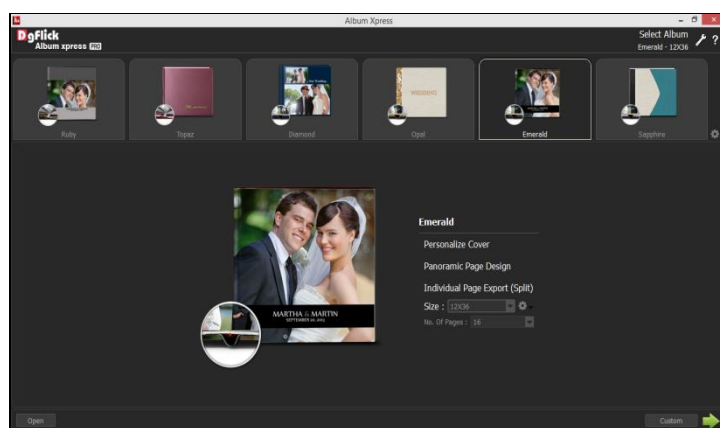
The quality of photos used in an Album must be good to ensure clarity in the final product. Album Xpress has an in-built 'quality indicator', which warns you whenever the photo quality goes below the required standards. Once the photo is placed into the frame, the indicator warns you if the resolution is inappropriate for the desired output size.

5.1.4. Ready Album Creation


Ready album offers you some sample designs of album, which you can use for your album designing.

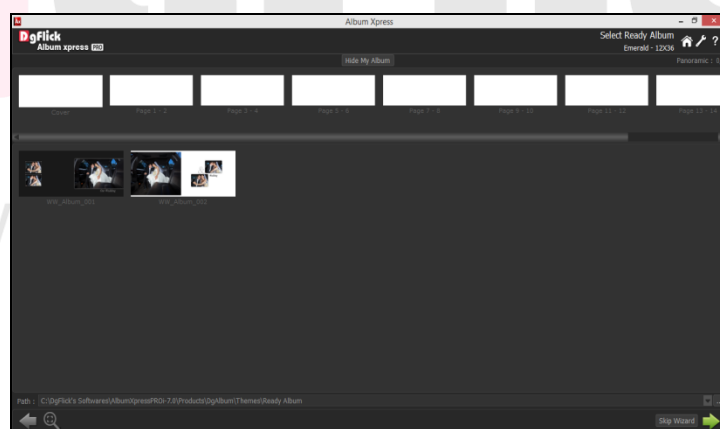
- ❖ In 'Create Album' window, click on 'Ready Sizes' button at bottom right hand corner of the window to select standard categories and sizes for the Album or create custom size. (Refer section Create Perfect Album with Custom Sizes)

- ❖ In 'Select Album' window, select the category for the Album.




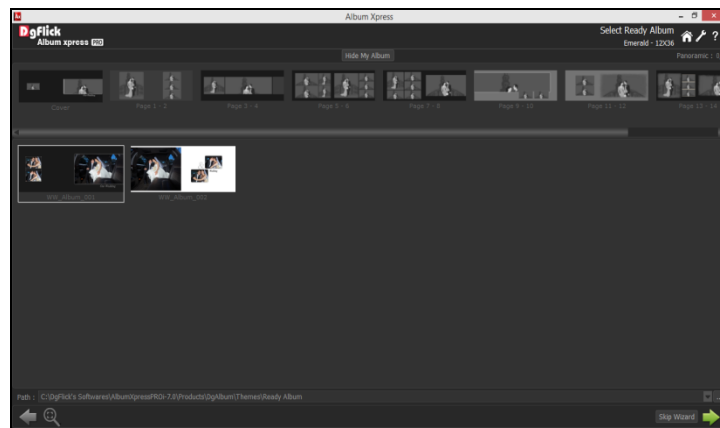
'Select Album' window

- ❖ Select the album size from the 'Size' drop down menu.
- ❖ You can choose no of pages for Album from 'No. of Pages' option.
- ❖ Once you select the Album size, you can continue the process with 'Next' button . You will be asked to select the Album style. Select the Album style – Ready Album.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Select Ready Album' window.



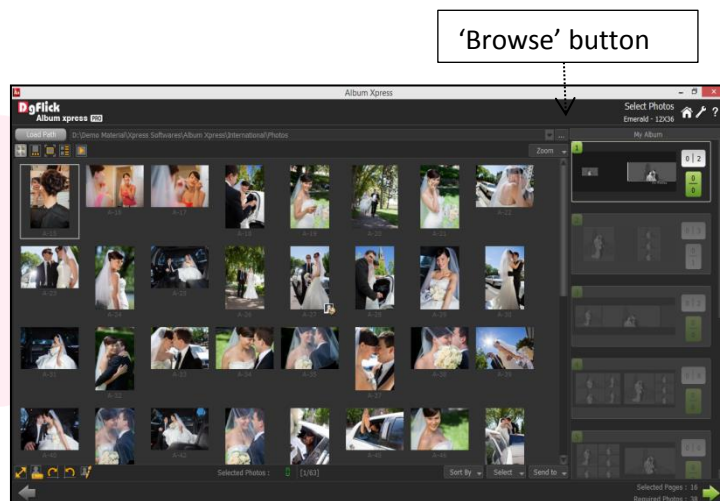
'Select Ready Album' window

- ❖ You can see sample albums readily available in this window. Each album consists of 40 designed pages with album jacket and cover.
- ❖ Select the album of your choice by double clicking on it. Once you select the desired album, you will be able to see the preview of the pages of the selected album on the pages.
- ❖ If you want, you can browse from the 'Browse' button  and access your own designed albums too.



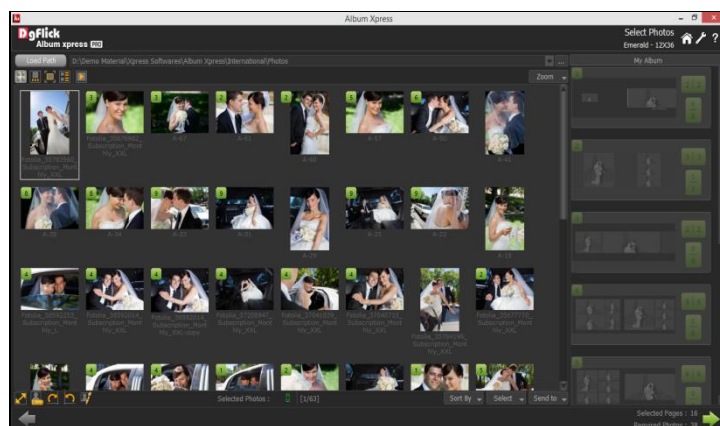
Desired album selected

- ❖ Once you select the desired album, you can go to the next process with the help of 'Next' button.
- ❖ Now you are in 'Select Photos' window.



'Select Photos' window

- ❖ You can browse from the 'Browse' button and set the path of the photos you want to use in the album.
- ❖ You can select the photos for the album template wise and move to the next process with 'Next' button.

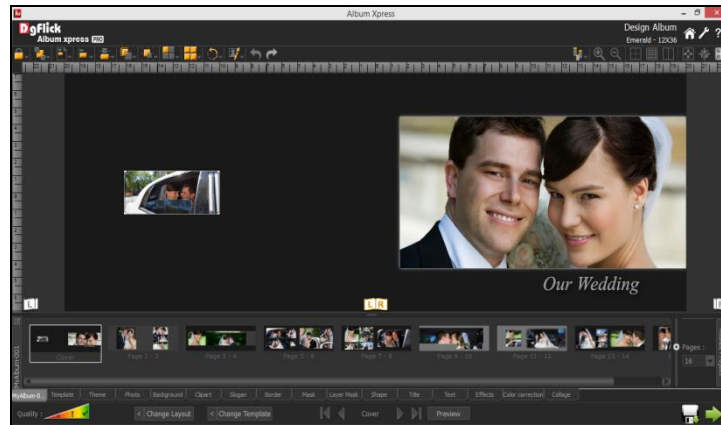


Photos selected for all the album pages

- ❖ 'Selected Pages' ① shows number of pages selected and 'Required Photos' ① shows number of photos

required for the album.

- ❖ Once you are done with photo selection process, continue process with 'Next' option ②.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Select Album' window where you can see the Album is ready with selected themes and photos.



'Design Album' window with Auto Album

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5.2. Manual Album Creation



















You could also go for advanced page composition i.e. Manual way for a wider array of options while creating the Album.

In manual Album Creation, software provides you full control over designing. You can give personal touch to the Album by adding your cliparts, background, shapes and decors.

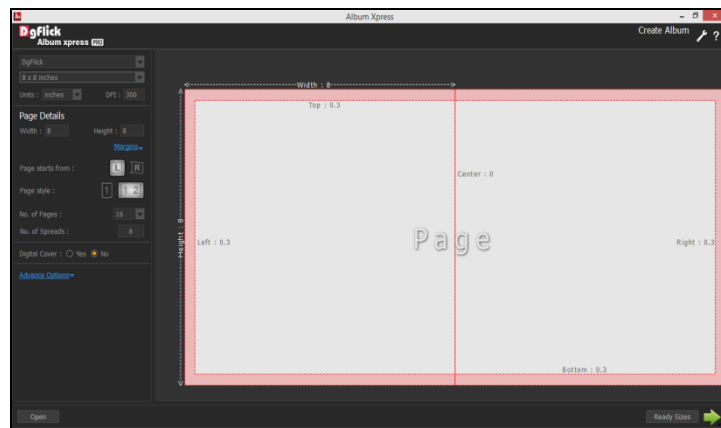
The Tool Bar

The tool bar at the top of the screen has a variety of options that makes Album Xpress user friendly and easy to work with. These options are explained below.

Table The Tool Bar	
Icon	Use
<Lock> 	Can be used to lock or unlock the photos as per the requirement.
<Arrange objects> 	The four options in this tool – Send to Back, Send Backward, Bring to Front, Bring Forward – help in moving objects forward and backward depending on the page layout. Click on the object and then choose the option required to move the photo accordingly.
<Page based alignment> 	This option can be used to move the object around with respect to the page. Click on the object and then select the option on the bar to apply the changes.
<Object based alignment> 	This option can be used to move the object around with respect to the other objects on the page. Click on the object and then select the option on the bar to apply the changes.
<Equal spacing> 	Helps to equalize the horizontal and vertical spacing between objects. Select the object for which you wish to equalize spacing. Click on the tool and select either 'Vertical' or 'Horizontal' as per your choice.
<Equal size> 	Helps to equalize the size of photos on a page. Select the photos for which you wish to make size changes. Then click on this tool and select the parameter for equalizing: Width, Height and Size.
<Group/Ungroup> 	Group and ungroup elements on the page. Grouping (select objects to be grouped and then click on the tool and select 'Group' option) ensures that the photos that are grouped move together as one unit with the spacing intact. To move an element of a group individually you need to ungroup the elements (click on the grouped photo and select 'Ungroup' option).
<Photo Grid> 	Helps to form a grid of the photos. It forms the grid of the selected photos where you just have to define rows and columns. The grid is treated as one photo and different page compositions can be formed by just changing layout of the page. The grids you formed can be breached and every photo can be treated as different photo

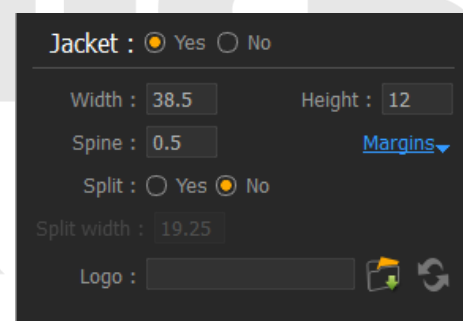
	while changing layout of the page.
<p><Split Photo></p> 	Helps to split the photo in grids. The selected photo can be split into grids and each small part of the photo can be enhanced by giving different effects.
<p><Rotate object></p> 	Rotates the object. To rotate the object as per your requirements, click on the tool and alter the x, y and z axis. You could also rotate it by 90 or 270 degrees and flip them vertically  or horizontally  . You could also rotate the image manually by using  and entering the value of your choice or using the slider 
<p><Edit photo></p> 	Helps you to use enhance the photos.
<p><Undo></p> 	To reset the change you made to the page.
<p><Redo></p> 	To redo a change you made to the page.
<p><View></p> 	Shows/hides tabs on the page.
<p><Show/hide margins></p> 	Shows/hides the margins on the page.
<p><Show/hide gridlines></p> 	Shows/hides the gridlines on the page.
<p><Show/hide centerline></p> 	Shows/hides the centerline on the page.
<p><Zoom in></p> 	For zooming the page in.
<p><Zoom out></p> 	For zooming the page out.
<p><Fit to screen></p> 	Adjusts the page size such that the page fits the screen.
<p><Actual Size></p> 	Shows the actual size of the page.
<p><Full size></p> 	View page in full size.



Album Creation with Custom Sizes using Album Xpress is a fast and user-friendly process, with an interactive interface, that gives you the flexibility of selecting, sorting and sequencing your pages and photos. Additionally, you could swap pages and photos and view the Album you have created.

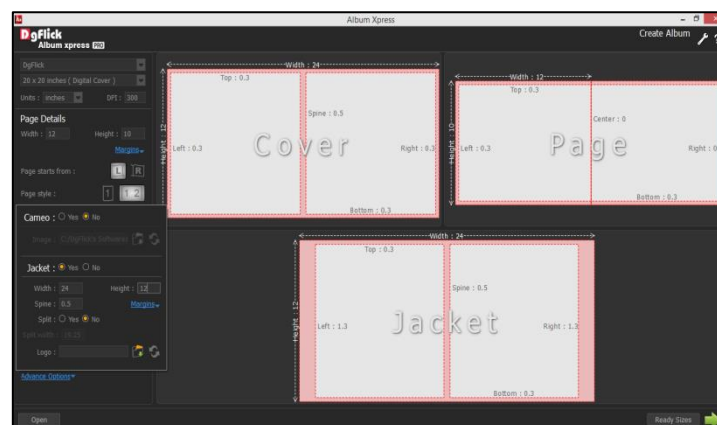


'Create Album' window

- ❖ Once you open the Album Xpress software, the first screen you see is 'Create Album' window.
- ❖ On this window, you can create custom sizes of Album.
- ❖ Maximum 10 sizes get stored in this option.
- ❖ Here create size as per your need. (Refer section Creating a category and size)
- ❖ Set cameo and jacket from 'Advance options'.
- ❖ If you want to design jacket for the album, select the 'Yes' option from 'Jacket' option.
- ❖ Set the parameters below the Jacket.
These are:
Width and Height,
Margins (Left, Right, Top and Bottom),
Spine and Split.

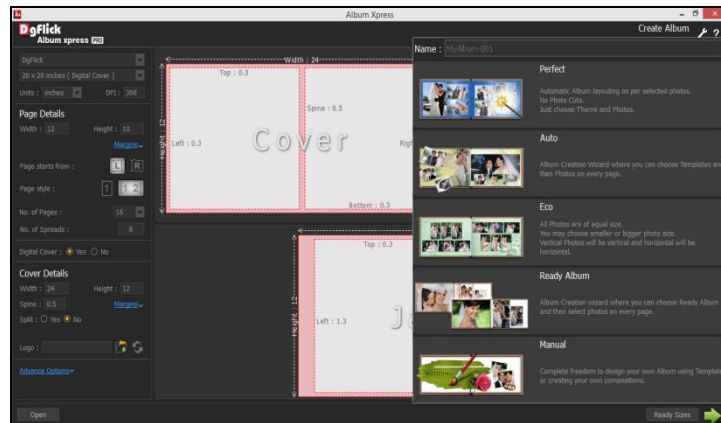


- ❖ Set the logo for Album from 'Logo' option. Browse from  and set the logo. Reset the logo from 



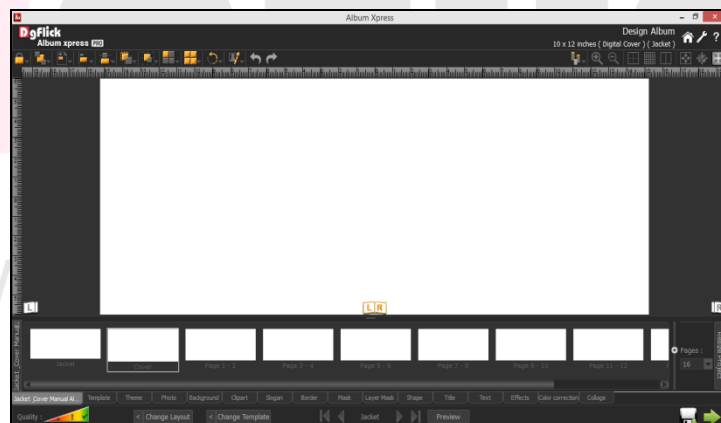
Adding cover and jacket for the Album

- ❖ After you add parameters for new custom size, click on 'Next' button ^(A) to select style of Album creation.



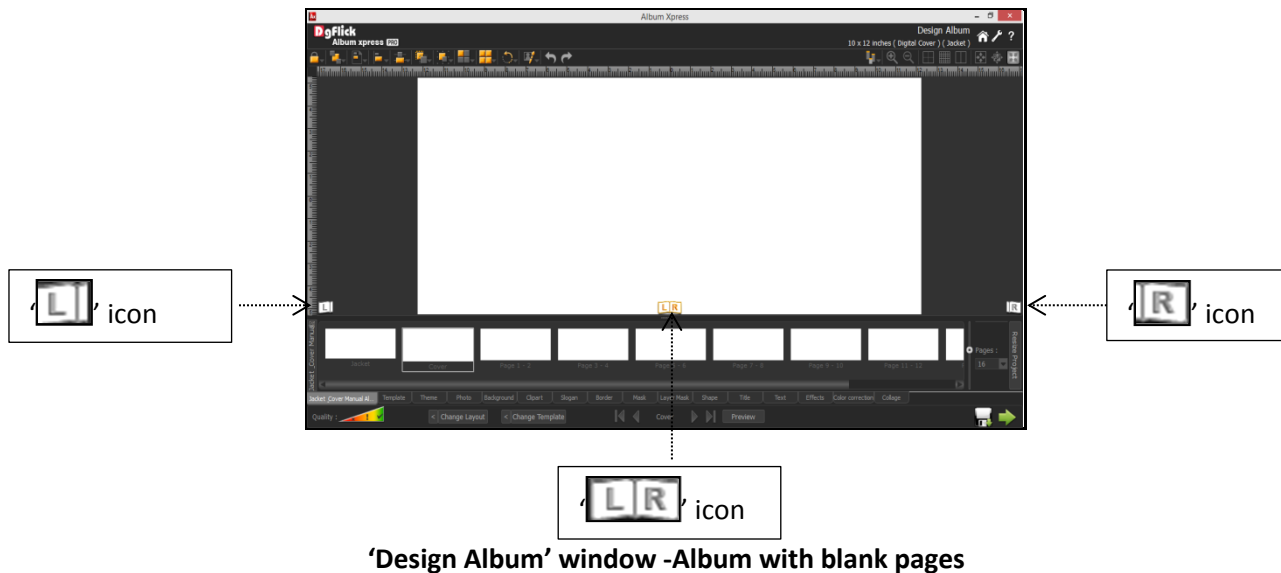
Choosing Album style

- ❖ In the 'Name' space, you can define the name, which you want to display on the cover and the spine of the album. Once you mention the name here, it automatically appears on the place. Here a name is defined for your knowledge.
- ❖ If you have kept Jacket option on, the name will appear on jacket and cover as well.
- ❖ Here we will go with Manual Album creation style.
- ❖ You will be redirected to 'Design Album' window where you can see blank pages of Album.



Jacket of the album

- ❖ The very first page displayed is of the jacket of the album. Second page is the cover page of the album. Let's navigate to the cover page of the album, as I want to design the cover page first.
- ❖ Here the cover page opens up.

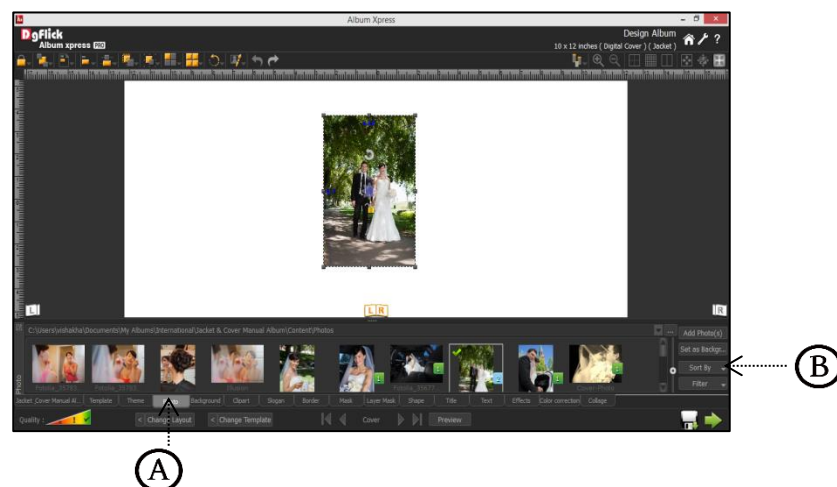


There are three icons on the canvas area. These icons are to define the insertion side of the template, theme or background.

icon	Icon selected	Explanation
		If this icon is selected, the template, theme or background if double clicked applied only on the left side of the page.
		If this icon is selected, the template, theme or background if double clicked applied on the whole page in spread style.
		If this icon is selected, the template, theme or background if double clicked applied only on the right side of the page.

Photo Tab

- ❖ Click on the 'Photo' tab **(A)** on the 'Design Album' window to access the photos of your choice.
- ❖ You could browse photos and even access the last 15 paths you have used.



- ❖ Sort the photos by clicking on 'Sort By' button **(B)**.

- ❖ Filter the photos by their used status from 'Filter' option.
- ❖ To use a photo, either double click on it or drag and drop it on the canvas.
- ❖ Resize and place the photo at the desired place by dragging it.

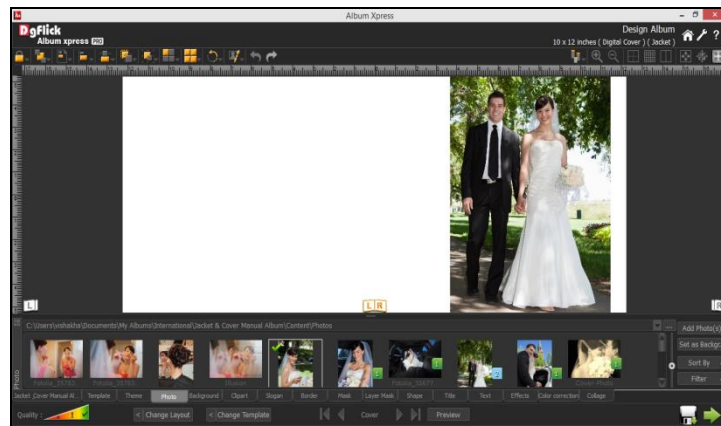


Photo resized and placed

Zooming In/Out



- ❖ While working on the Album you can focus attention on a specific area of the page by zooming in or take a look at the 'larger picture' by zooming out. You can use a combination of these options to obtain the desired level of accuracy on the page.



(a) Zooming in; (b) zooming out

- ❖ Click on the photo you want to work on and then use the scroll wheel of the mouse to zoom in or zoom out as per your requirement.

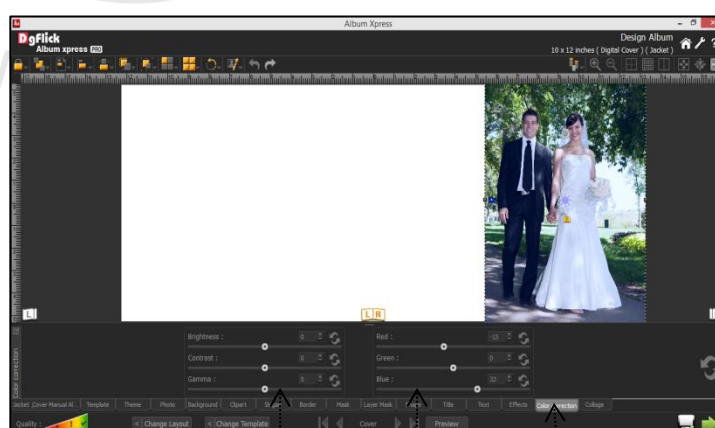
Panning

- ❖ Panning lets you view specific areas of the photo by moving the photo up or down and sideways in the canvas area. This gives access to the areas that would otherwise remain obscure given the size of the photo.
- ❖ Place the cursor over , which then changes to  or the 'hand symbol'. Now use your mouse to take hold of the photo and move it around to get to the area you wish to work on.
- ❖ You can also use 'Page Based Alignment' tab, which is located at the top option bar to align the photo according to the page. While aligning the photo or any selected object from this tab, you can also maintain safe area guideline and align the object inside the safe area.

Page based alignment	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Respect safe area	
Top Left	Ctrl+7
Top Center	Ctrl+8
Top Right	Ctrl+9
Center Left	Ctrl+4
Center	Ctrl+5
Center Right	Ctrl+6
Bottom Left	Ctrl+1
Bottom Center	Ctrl+2
Bottom Right	Ctrl+3
Top	Ctrl+T
Bottom	Ctrl+B
Left	Ctrl+L
Right	Ctrl+R
Horizontal Center	Shift+H
Vertical Center	Shift+V

Page based alignment tab


- ❖ The photos can be color corrected with the help of 'Color Correction' tab.
- ❖ 'Color Correction' tab ③ helps you to color correct photos instantly. The instant color correction feature helps you to color correct photos according to the background.
- ❖ You can color correct multiple photos at a time. Select the photos you wish to color correct.



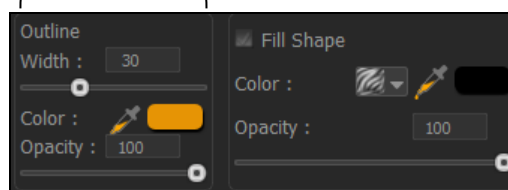
'Design Album' window - 'Color Correction' tab

- ❖ From 'Brightness, Contrast and Gamma' sliders ①, you can adjust the brightness, contrast and gamma of the photos.
- ❖ To adjust the red, green and blue value of the photos, use the 'Red, Green and Blue' sliders ②.
- ❖ From 'Reset all' button ④, you can reset all the color corrections in single click.

Shape

- ❖ Click on 'Shape' tab on the option bar to select a shape you would like to add to decorate the page.
- ❖ Double click on the shape or drag and drop onto the canvas.
- ❖ You can align and resize the shape or rotate it using  icon on the shape.
- ❖ To customize the shape according to your taste, use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab.

Manage the width of the outline from the slider or define width manually

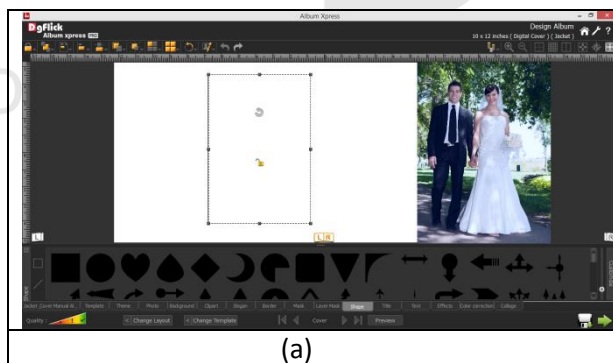


Fill the shape with color picker, color palette or texture and manage the opacity of the color fill with slider or define the numbers manually

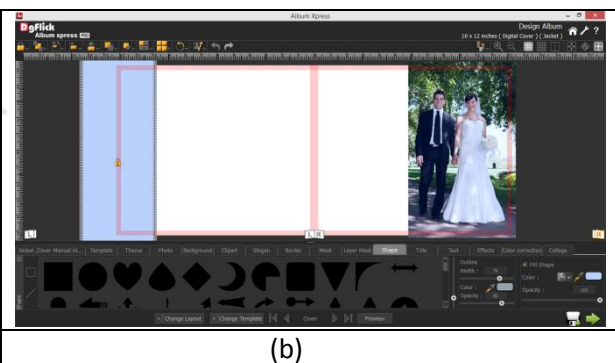
Manage the color of the outline from the color palette and color picker and opacity of outline color from slider or define number manually

Shape customizing options

- ❖ Same way you can add multiple shapes according to your design.



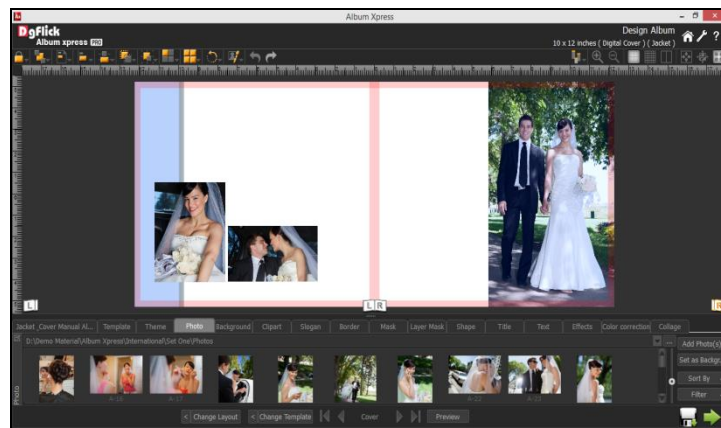
(a)



(b)


(a) Shape added from the 'Shape' tab; (b) Shape customized with the 'Customize' option

- ❖ We will add some photos to Album page and place them on the shape.






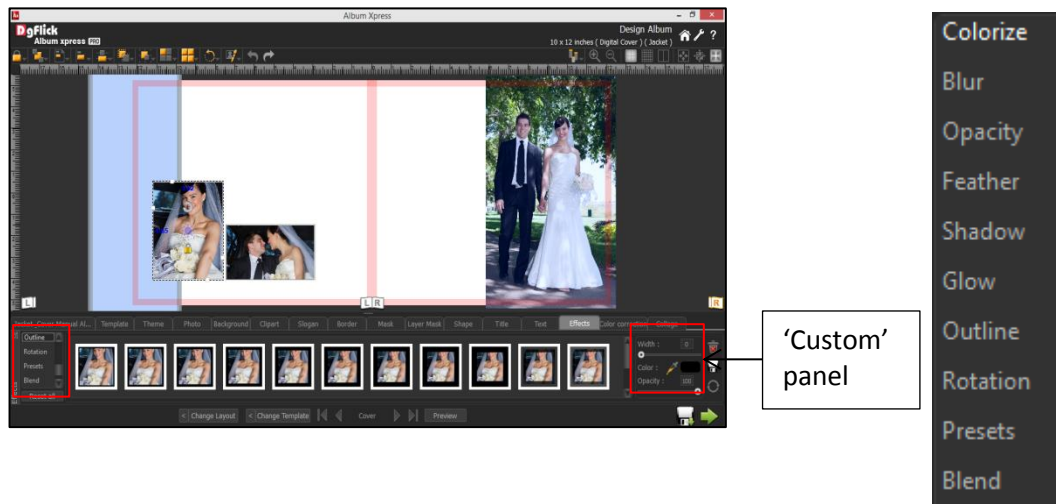
'Design Album' window - Photos added and arranged

Swapping Photos

- ❖ Many a times you need to swap photos on a page as you go along. However, the borders if applied to the photos are not swapped.
- ❖ Select the photos you wish to swap by keeping the ctrl key pressed. When both the photos are selected, the 'Swap' icon appears . Click on the icon to swap the photos.



Effects

- ❖ To apply effects to the Album pages; click on 'Effects' tab on the option bar.
- ❖ There are 10 different options under this category. They are: Colorize, Blur, Opacity, Feather, Shadow, Glow, Outline, Rotation, Presets and Blend. Apply the desired effect on the photo.
 - **Colorize:** Click on the photo to be modified and then click on the colorize preset to apply the effect to the photo. To manually make changes or customize, use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab and change the color, opacity and level using 'Color Picker' and sliders. You can save * the effect you just customized as a preset with the help of 'Save' button  and delete any unwanted preset with 'Delete' button . Reset the effect with 'Reset' option .
 - **Blur:** You could give a blurred appearance to some photos to make the page visually more appealing. Click on the photo you need to blur and then select the preset of your choice under this option. Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab and increase or decrease the level or blurriness using the slider.



'Design Album' window - Applying Outline Effect to the photo

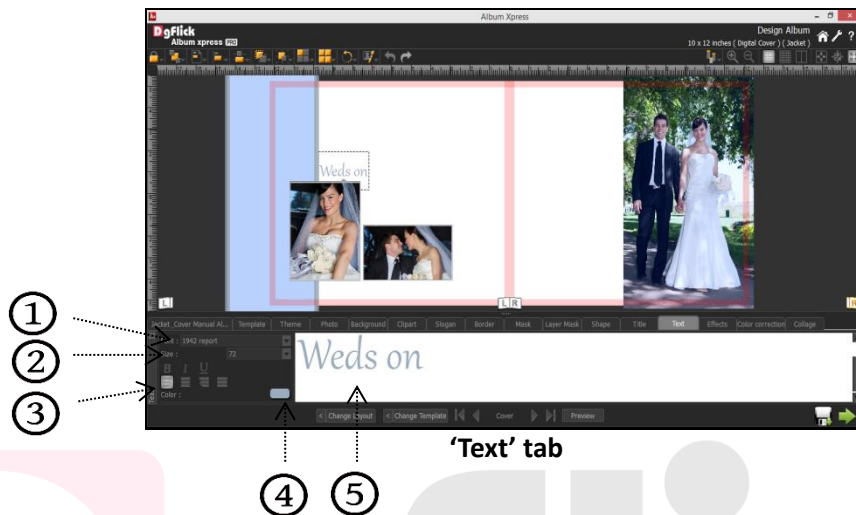
Available effects

- **Opacity:** Add opacity to the photos by selecting the presets available under this option. You could also manually choose the level of opacity from the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab.
- **Feather:** Apply the feather effect to the photos by clicking on the photo and then selecting the preset of your choice. Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab to manually change the values of the feather using the slider.
- **Shadow:** To apply the shadow effect to the photos, click on 'Shadow' and then choose from the available presets. Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab and to apply the shadow by doing settings manually.
- **Glow:** Apply the required presets under the 'Glow' option by clicking on the photo and then clicking on the preset. Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab for changing your blur, color and opacity values.
- **Outline:** Select the photo and click on the preset of your choice to apply the outline. To customize the outline, Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab and create the outline of your choice by filling in the values in these fields.
- **Rotation:** The photos on the Album page can be rotated using the predefined presets under the 'Rotation' option. Use the 'Custom' panel available at the right side of the tab to change the values for the x, y and z axis and give the photo a 3-D effect. You could also flip the photo horizontally and vertically by using  and , respectively.
- **Presets:** This option gives you certain in-built effects that you could use for the photos. Click on the photo and then click on the desired preset to apply it.
- **Blend:** There are 12 blending modes that help you achieve the desired effect for the photo. Click on the photo and then select the blend option of your choice to apply.

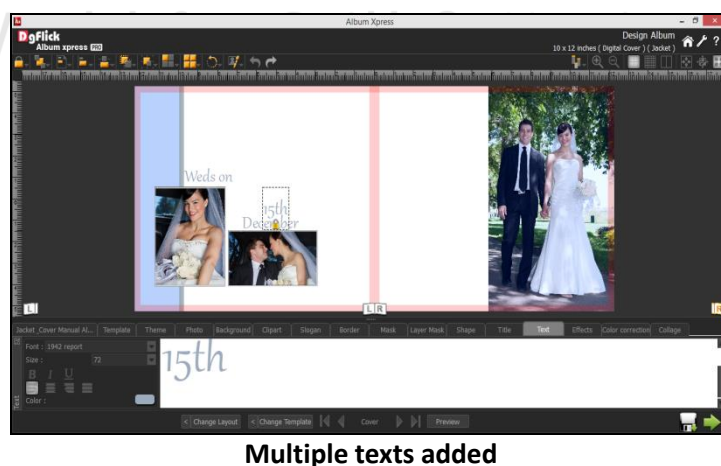
Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

Text

- ❖ Click on the 'Text' tab on the option bar to insert text to describe the photos on your page, if required.
- ❖ You could add text and change its look by using different options available on the tab.
- ❖ The empty white field ⑤ can be used to type in the text you wish to add for the photo.

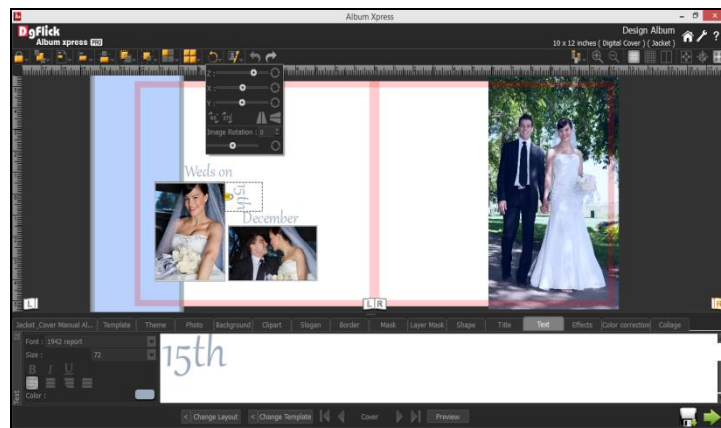


- ❖ You can change the following parameters for the text:
 - Font from font dropdown menu ①,
 - Font size from size dropdown menu ②,
 - Style from various style options ③,
 - Font Color from color palette ④,
- ❖ In this way, you can add multiple text if you want.



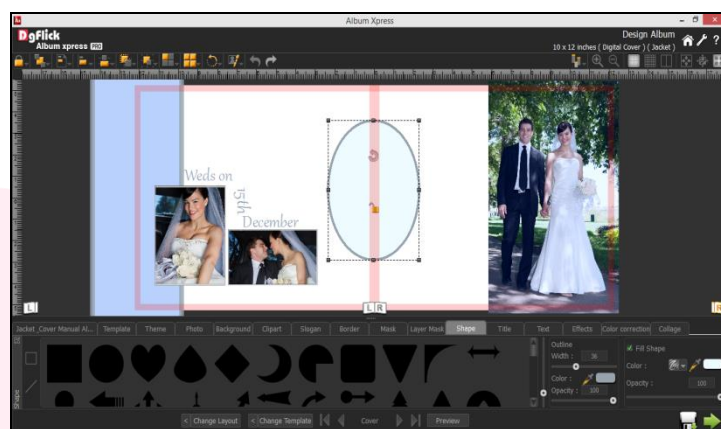
Multiple texts added

- ❖ You can manage the angle of the text from the 'Rotate Objects' tab located at the top of the window. You can rotate text in 90° and 270° and in X, Y and Z angle with the help of sliders easily.



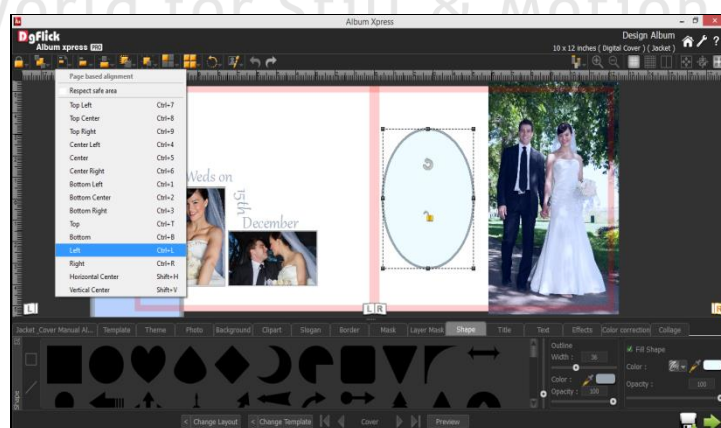
'Rotate Objects' tab – text rotated

- ❖ You can add more shapes from the 'Shape' tab according to the album design.



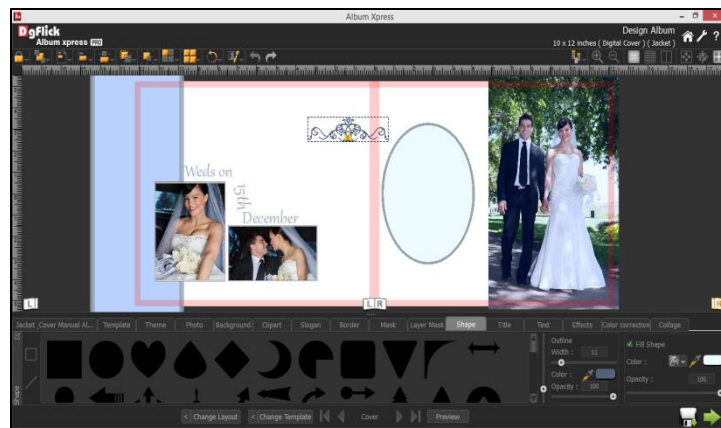
Another shape is added and customized

- ❖ To align this shape at the left side of the right page, the right page is selected and 'Left' option from the 'Page Based Alignment' tab is used to align shape.



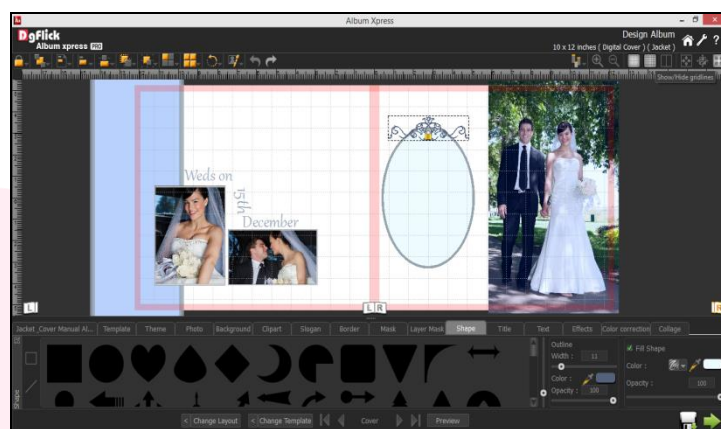
Shape is aligned from the 'Page Based Alignment' tab

- ❖ You can use other options in 'Page Based Alignment' tab to align the selected objects according to your design.
- ❖ Here one more shape is added and customized.



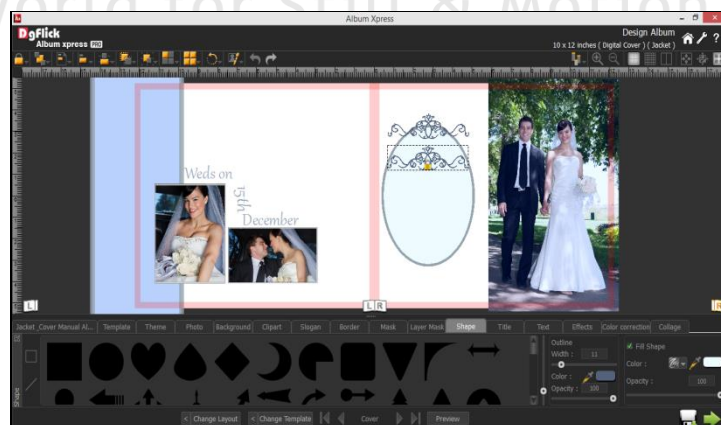
Shape added and customized

- ❖ Grid lines can be used to align the objects on the page with reference to the other object's position.




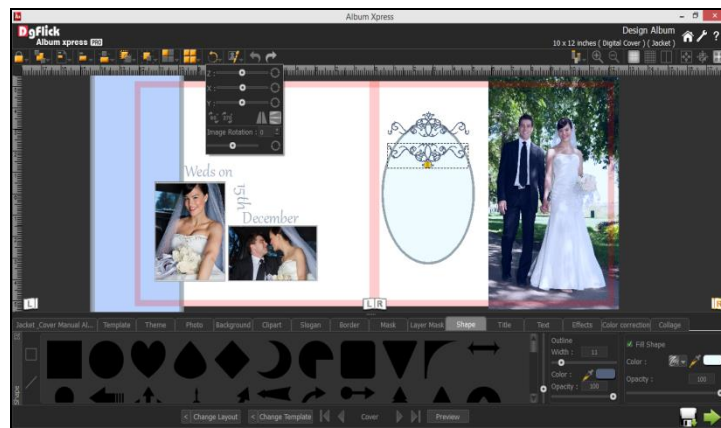
Shape aligned with the reference to the gridlines

- ❖ To add similar shape below the oval shape, you can copy the shape by pressing 'Control + C' on your keyboard and paste the shape by pressing 'Control + V' on your keyboard



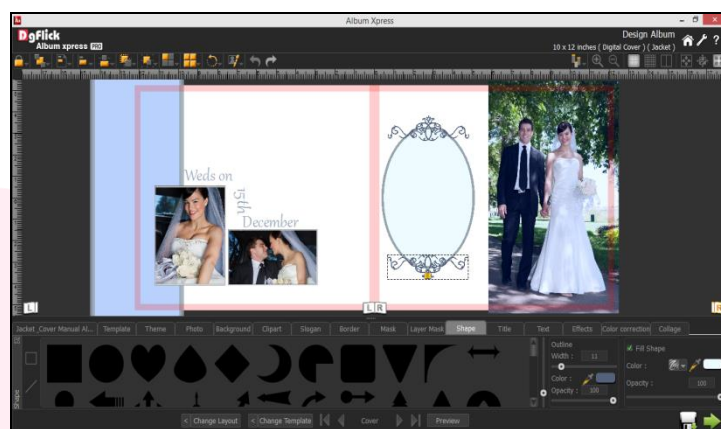
Shape copied and pasted

- ❖ To place shape in flipped position, select the shape and use the 'Flip Vertical' option  in 'Rotate Objects' tab.



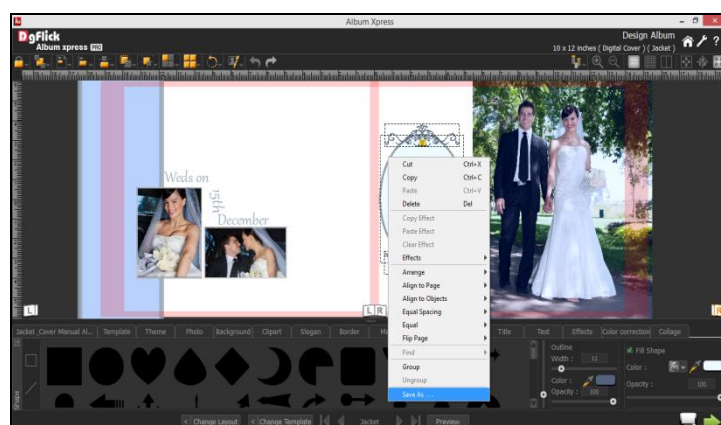
Shape flipped with 'Flip Vertical' tab

- ❖ Now place the shape at the bottom of the shape or any other place according to your design.



Shape aligned with reference to other shape

- ❖ You may save the combination of shapes as PNG file * and use in other projects. It saves your time of adding and customizing shapes repeatedly. You can just import this file and insert in design.
- ❖ To save the shape, first select it and right click on it. You can select multiple shapes and save them as one object.



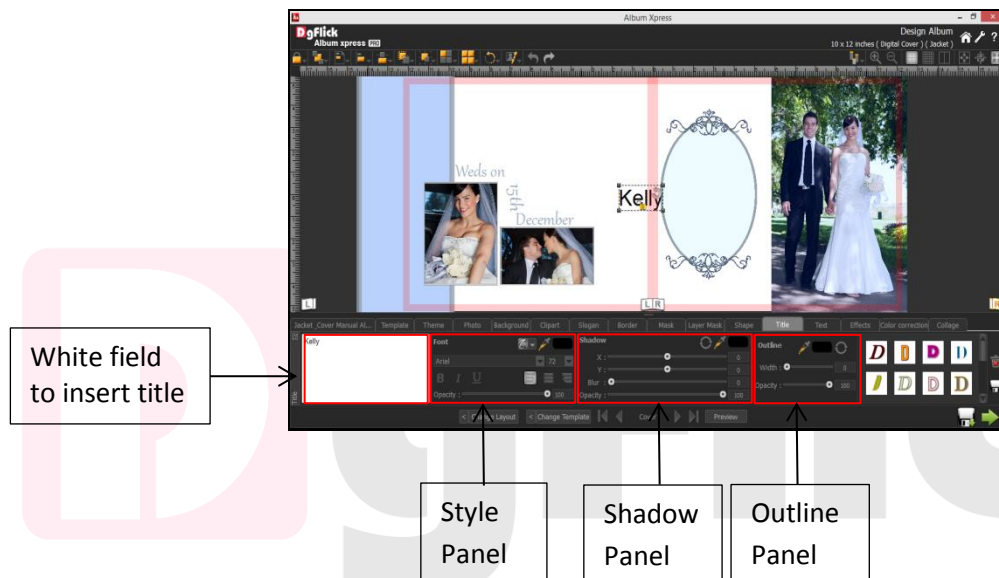
Saving shape

- ❖ You will find a 'Save as' option. Once you click on it, you will be redirected to a window where you will be asked to select the path to save the PNG file. Browse and give the path. Give a name to the PNG file and save the PNG by clicking on 'Save' option.

- ❖ Go to the defined path and view the PNG. In this way, you can save PNG files of titles, slogans, cliparts and even you can select multiple objects and save them as a single PNG.

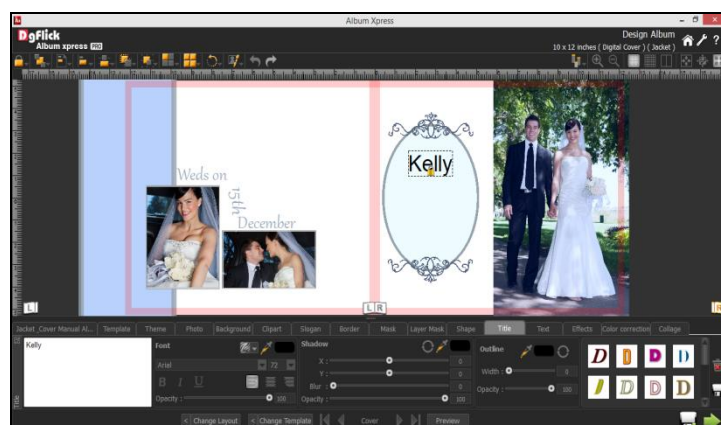
Note: *Some features are available only for the Album Xpress PRO version users.

- ❖ Like texts, you can insert titles also from the 'Title' tab.
- ❖ Click on the 'Title' tab to add or amend a title for the photo.
- ❖ You can do several creative things with title. Let's have a look.
- ❖ First, use the white space to insert the title on the page.



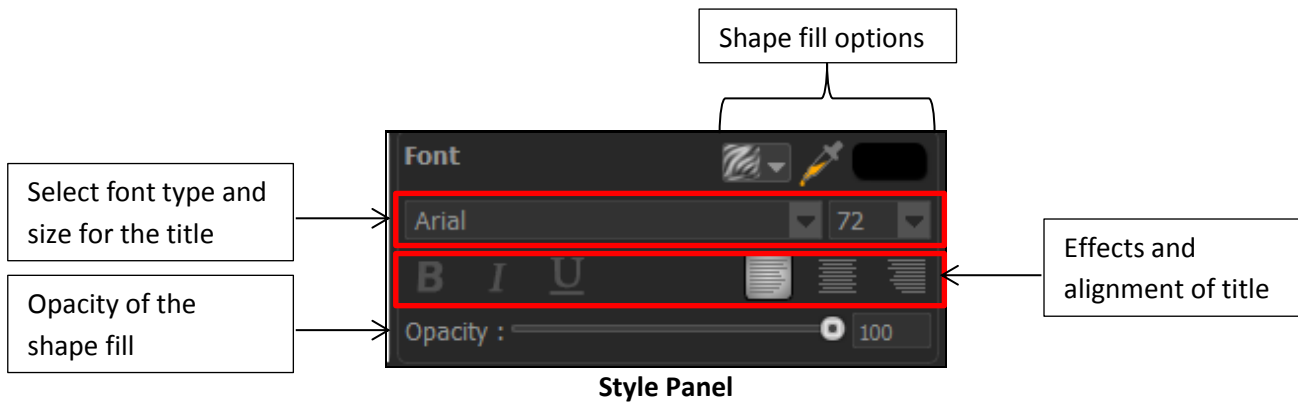
Inserting the title

- ❖ Align the title with reference to the shape.

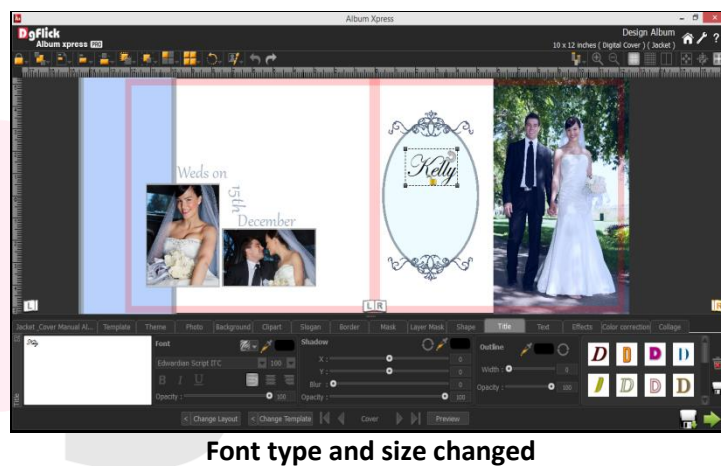


Aligning the title with reference to the shape

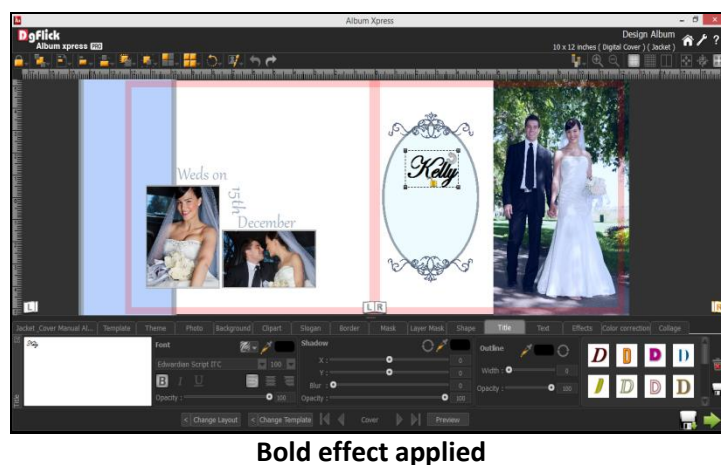
- ❖ There are three panels in the window.
 - Style Panel: This panel allows you to set the style of the panel.



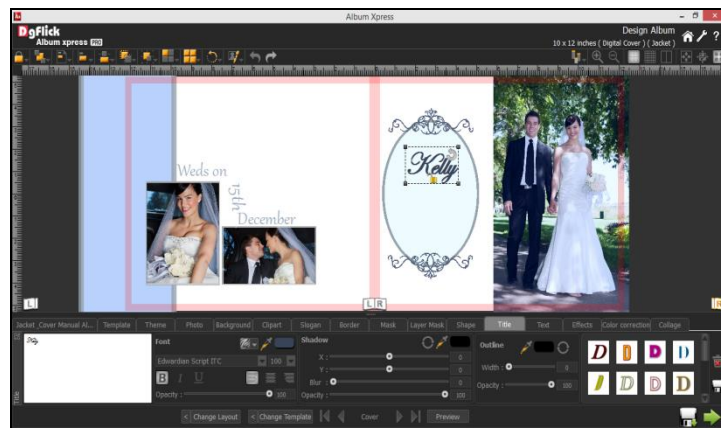
- Set the font type and size from Style Panel.



- You can also apply the effects like bold, italic and underline from the Style Panel. The alignment of the title can also be managed.




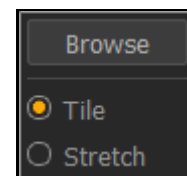
- The shape can be filled with solid color or any texture. Let's fill the title with solid color.
- Use the color picker or color palette to select the color for the title.



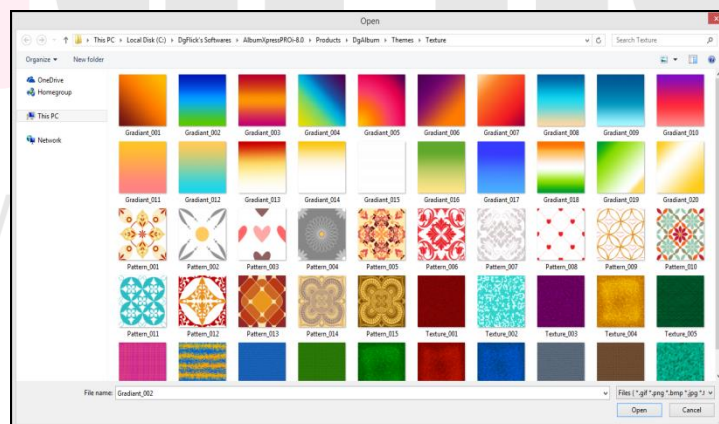
'Title' tab – title filled with solid color

- If you want to fill title with any texture, 'Title' tab helps you with the texture tools.

- Click on the 'Texture' icon . You will see 'Browse' option.

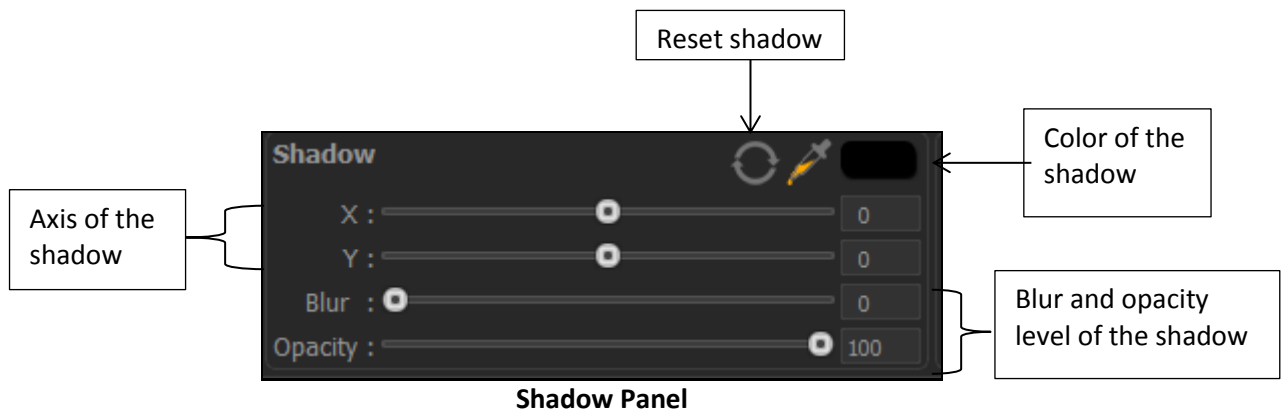


- Once you click on the option, you will be redirected to a window where you can select the image you want to insert as texture.
- DgFlick provides you 50 ready textures.

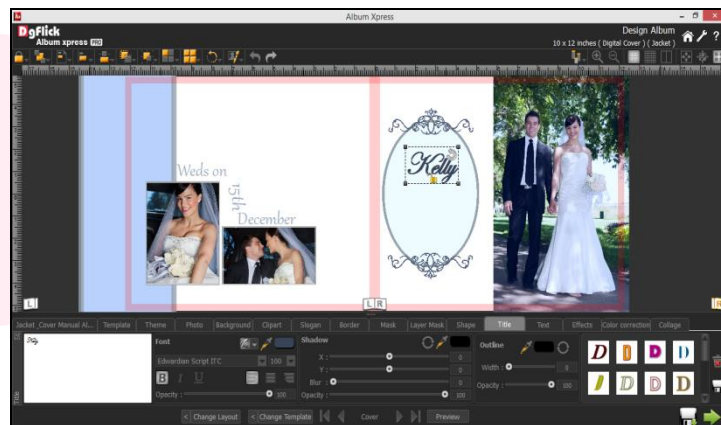


Ready textures by DgFlick

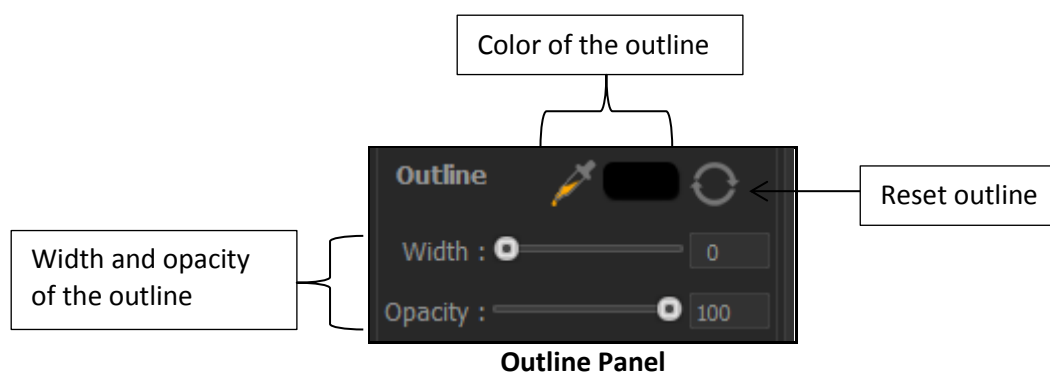
- You may browse and use your own textures as well.
- Select the texture image and click on 'Open' option.
- The texture will appear in the title. You may set the texture in the 'Tile' and 'Stretch' style. These options get visible after you click on 'Texture' icon.
- You can manage the opacity of the shape fill from the opacity slider. You can also insert the values manually.
- Shadow Panel: you can give shadow effect to the title from this panel. There are various tools in the panel to customize the shadow effect.



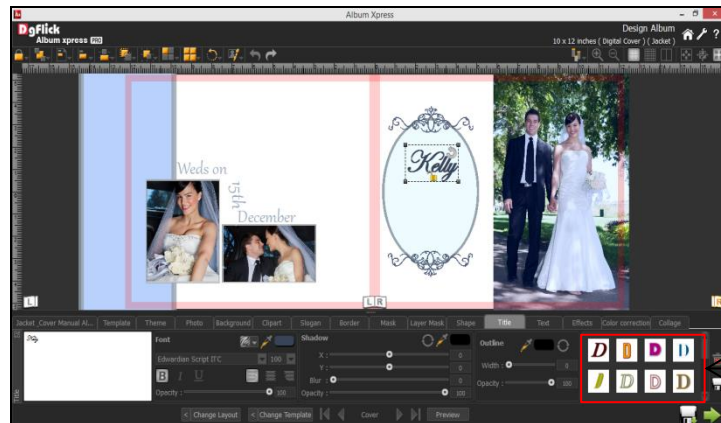
- Use the color picker or color palette to select the color for the shadow.
- Axis of the shadow can be manipulated. You have got X and Y sliders to manage axis. You can either use the sliders or enter the values manually.
- The blur and opacity level of the shadow can be manipulated from the respective slider.




- Reset the shadow with 'Reset' icon.
- Outline Panel: Title can be given an outline with desired effect.





- The color of the outline can be selected via color picker or color palette.
- Width and opacity of the outline is customizable and can be managed with either sliders or value box.



Ready presets of the title

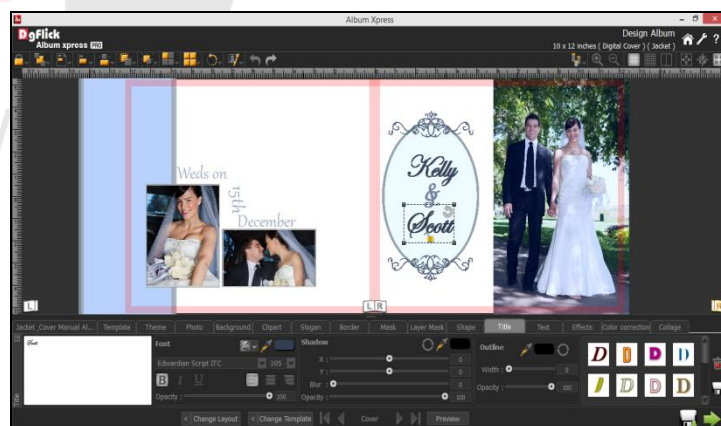
- The outline can be reset with the help of 'Reset' icon 

- ❖ DgFlick also provides some ready presets of the title, which can be applied on one click. If you want, you can also save* your own preset for future use.

- ❖ Let's save the title, which has been given effect just now, as a preset. Select the title and save it* with 'Save' button . You may also delete any unwanted preset with 'Delete' button .

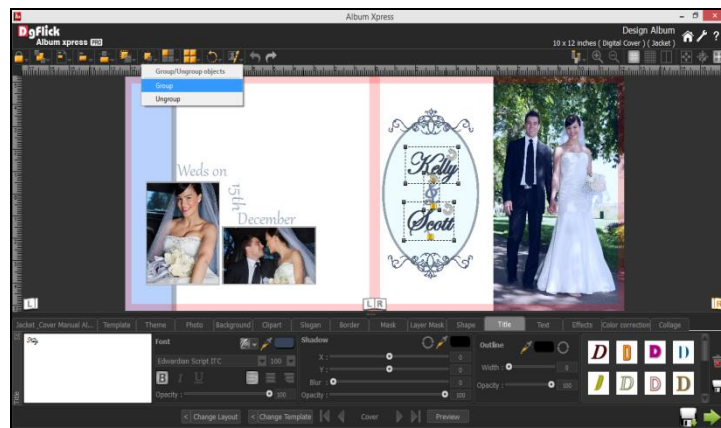
Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

- ❖ In the same way, multiple titles can be added and placed at the desired place.



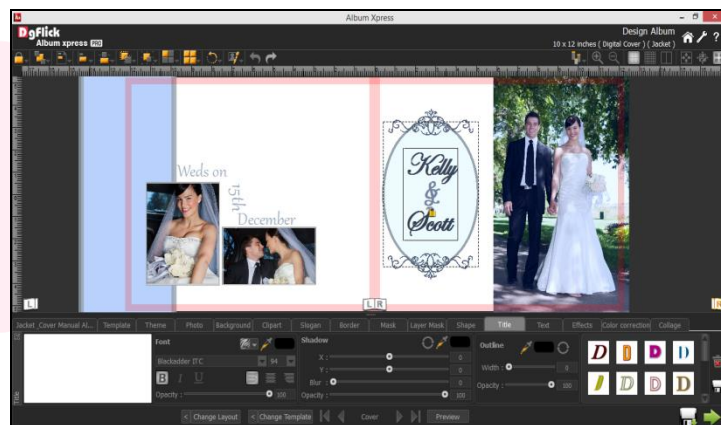
Multiple titles added and formatted

- ❖ You can group multiple objects to move and align them together without any individual efforts for each object.
- ❖ To group the objects, select them all by holding control key on your keyboard and select the 'Group' option in 'Group/Ungroup Objects' tab.



Grouping titles

- ❖ There is an 'Object Based Alignment' tab, which you can use to align objects with the reference to other objects.
- ❖ Select the object first of which you want to give reference for alignment and then select the object, which you want to align and go to the 'Object Based Alignment' tab.



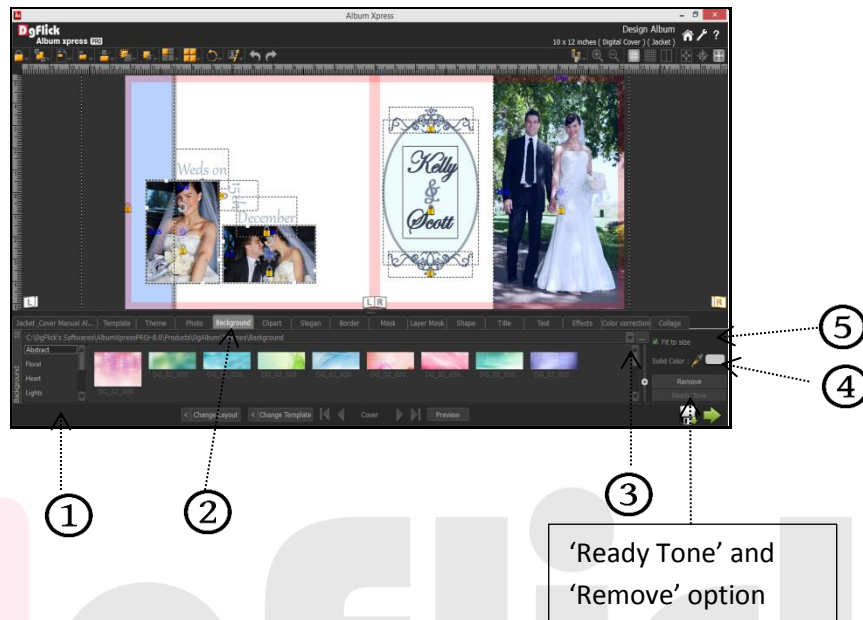
Aligning title to the center of the shape

- ❖ Here several alignment options are given. Use the option, which suits your design.

Background Tab

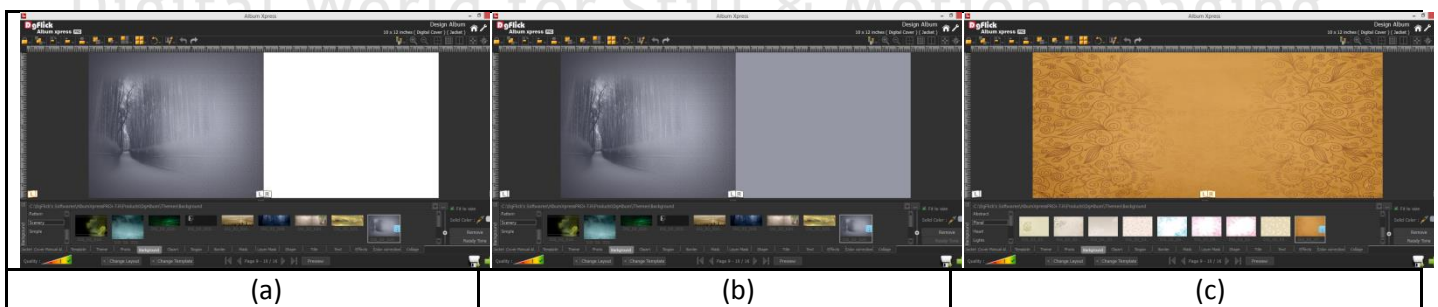
- ❖ You can also design the page by adding backgrounds and photos.
- ❖ Click on the 'Background' tab ② on the option bar to select the background for the Album or to fill it with any solid color.
- ❖ DgFlick offers you backgrounds based on various themes. In the 'Background' tab, you can see various categories of backgrounds. You can change the category of the background and access backgrounds of another category. ①
- ❖ You get the backgrounds of Abstract, Floral, Heart, Lights, Pattern, Scenery and Simple category.
- ❖ Besides the in-built backgrounds, you could access and select backgrounds that you have saved elsewhere by clicking on the 'Browse' button ③. The last 15 paths used can be viewed.

- ❖ If you select the folder of background having sub folders, the sub folders will appear in the place of categories. In this way, you can access multiple folders easily.
- ❖ Select the page side from Left, Right or Both on which you want to apply the background.
- ❖ To use a background, double click on it or drag and drop it on the canvas from the option bar.



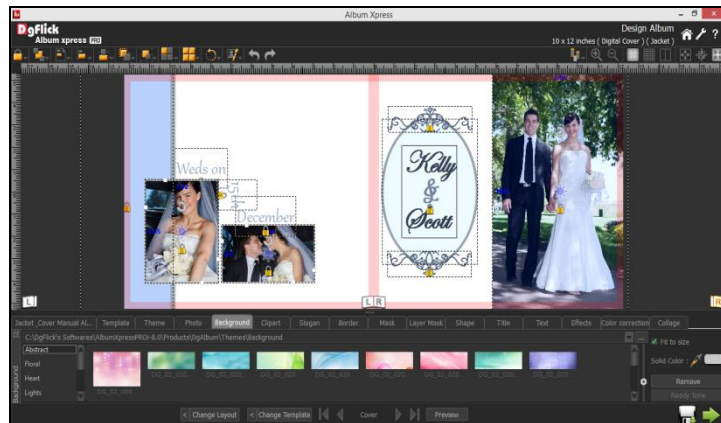
The page with the 'Background' tab

- ❖ Uncheck the 'Fit to size' check box ⑤ on the Background tab to expand the background on the page.
- ❖ To fill the canvas with one single solid color, click on 'Color Picker' ① and place it on the color you wish to use as background for the Album. The whole page now gets a background of that color.



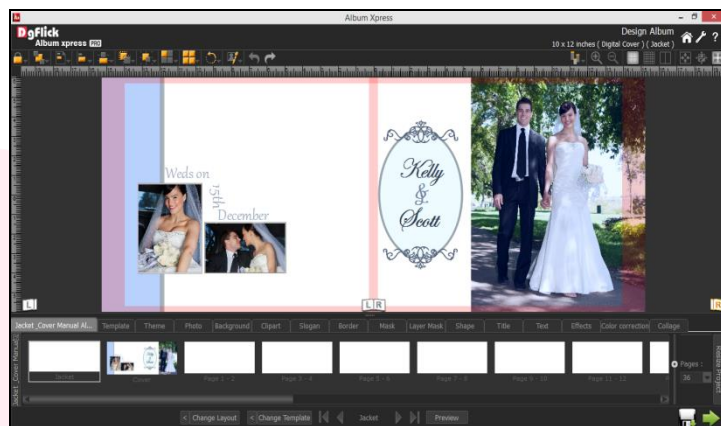
Applying the background on the (a) left page; (b) solid color on right page; and (c) on both left and right pages

- ❖ Click on the 'Ready Tone' button on the Background tab to select from a range of 18 ready tones available for each background.
- ❖ To change the tone, double click on the chosen tone.
- ❖ You can remove the background with the 'Remove' button.
- ❖ As the cover page is designed and I want the same design on the jacket of the album, here all the contents are first selected with 'Ctrl + A' and then copied with 'Ctrl + C'.



All the contents are selected and copied

- ❖ Now going back to the jacket page by navigating back, all the contents are pasted here with 'Ctrl + V'.



All the contents are pasted and adjusted on jacket page

- ❖ You can insert desired background on the jacket of the album from the 'Background' tab.
- ❖ In this way, you can design jacket. You may create different design for jacket with the available designing options.
- ❖ Navigate the page from the available navigator.
- ❖ Insert a photo from the photo tab and align it to the desired place after resizing and zooming it.

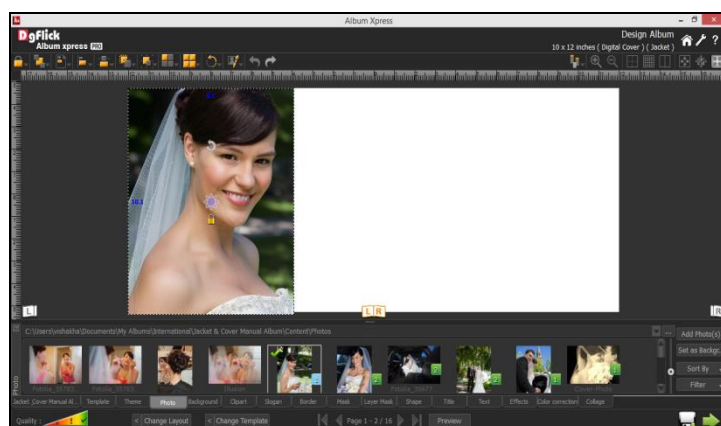
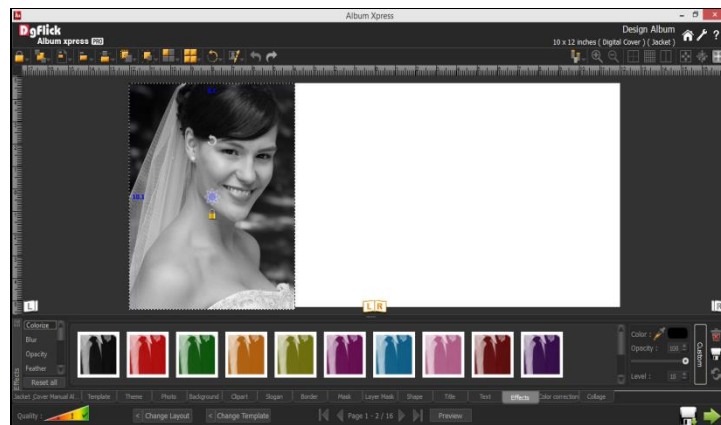


Photo inserted and positioned

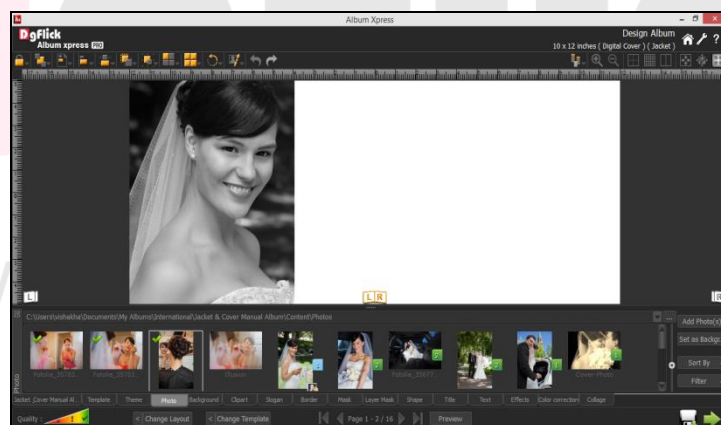
- ❖ Photos can be made more attractive by adding different effects on it. Apply desired effect from the 'Effects' tab.



Colorize effect applied

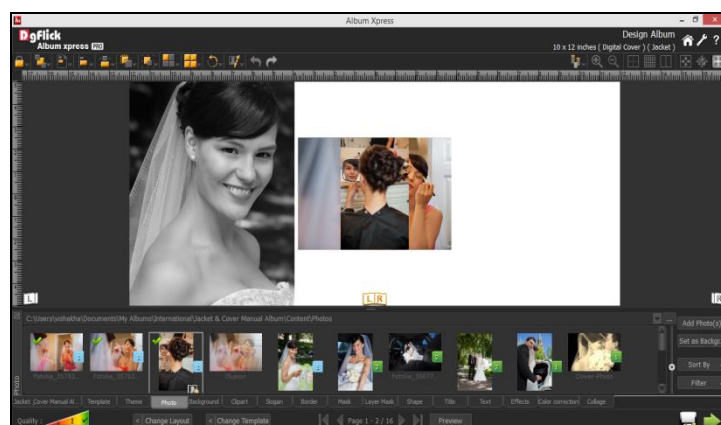
Photo grid

- ❖ You can form a grid of photos in Album Xpress without any manual placement of photos.
- ❖ Go to the 'Photo' tab. Now to insert multiple photos at a time, keep the control key pressed and keep on selecting the photos you want to insert.




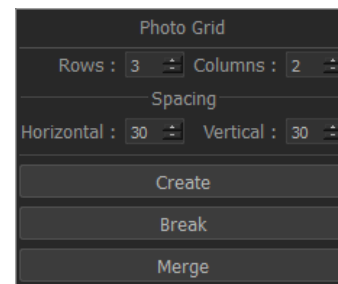
Multiple photos selected to insert

- ❖ Use the 'Add Photos' button to insert all the photos at once.



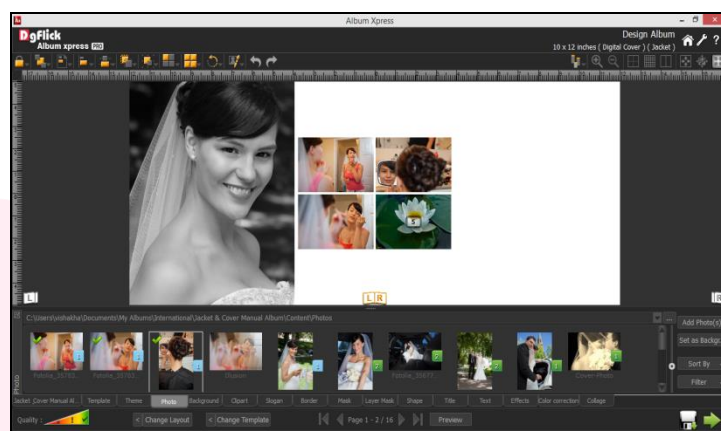
Multiple photos inserted

- ❖ Select all the photos. From the 'Photo Grid' option , define the rows and columns of the grid.
- ❖ You may also manage horizontal and vertical spacing between two photos in grid.
- ❖ After defining the grid parameters, create the grid with the help of Create option.



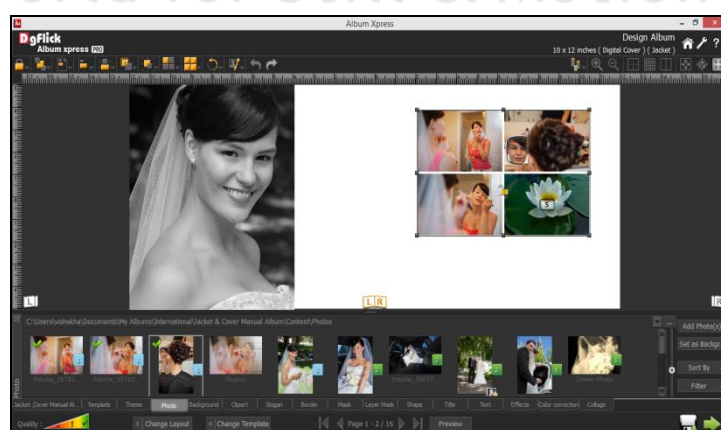
'Photo Grid' options

- ❖ The grid will be created.



Grid created

- ❖ You may resize and move the grid on the pages to give the desired look.
- ❖ Pan the photo and make the important part of the photo visible.



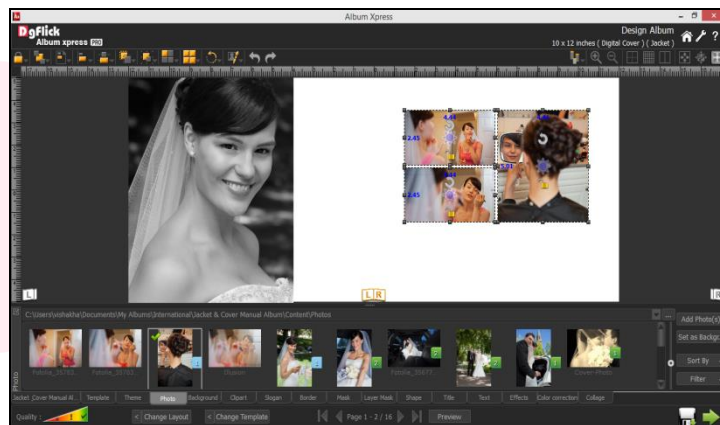
Grid resized and placed according to the design

- ❖ If you want, you can merge two fields and place one photo in a grid, first select the photos and click on the 'Merge' option.



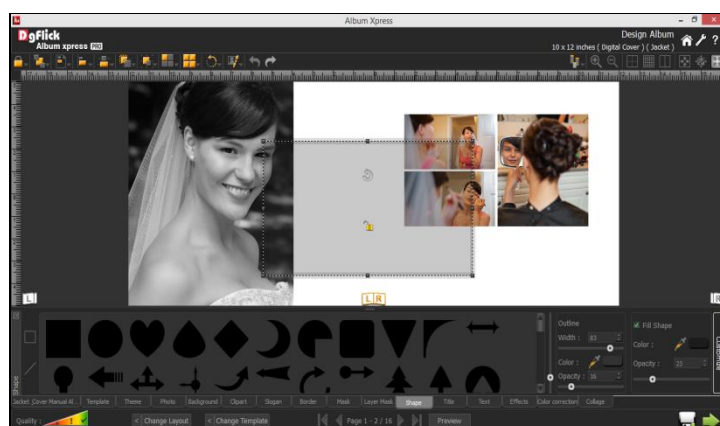
Grid (a) Before merging, (b) After merging

- ❖ The field will be merged and a single photo will be placed on the place.
- ❖ You may apply any desired effect like outline or shadow to the grid to highlight it.
- ❖ You may break the grid with the help of 'Break' option.



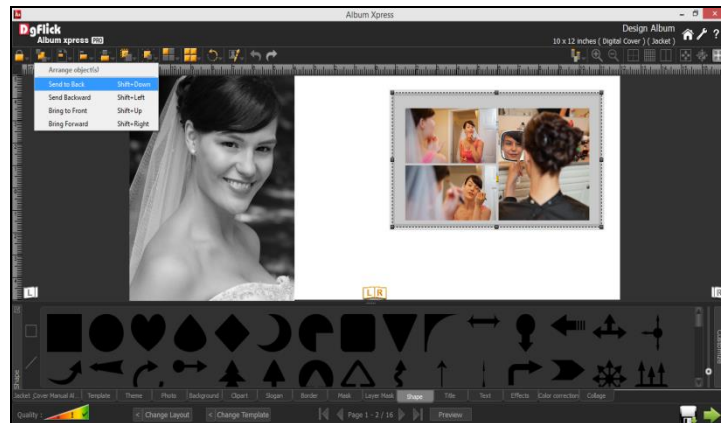
Grid broken

- ❖ You can also add shape at the background of the grid to highlight the grid.
- ❖ Add a shape from the 'Shape' tab and customize it from the 'Custom' option.



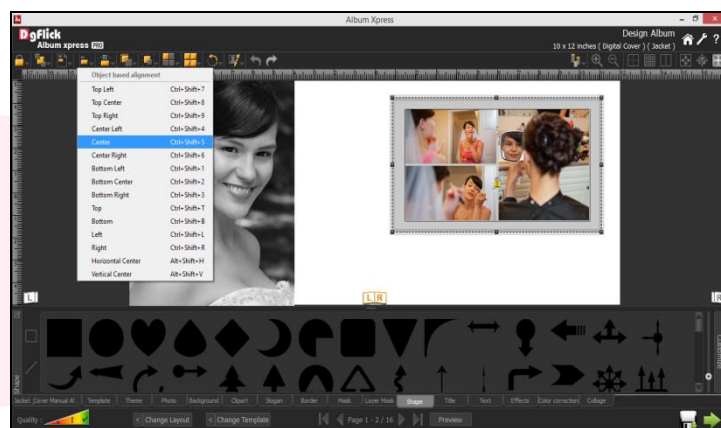
Shape added and customized

- ❖ Place the shape on the grid. To send this shape to the backside of the grid, select the shape and from the 'Arrange Objects' tab, select 'Send to Back' option.




Shape sent at the back of the grid

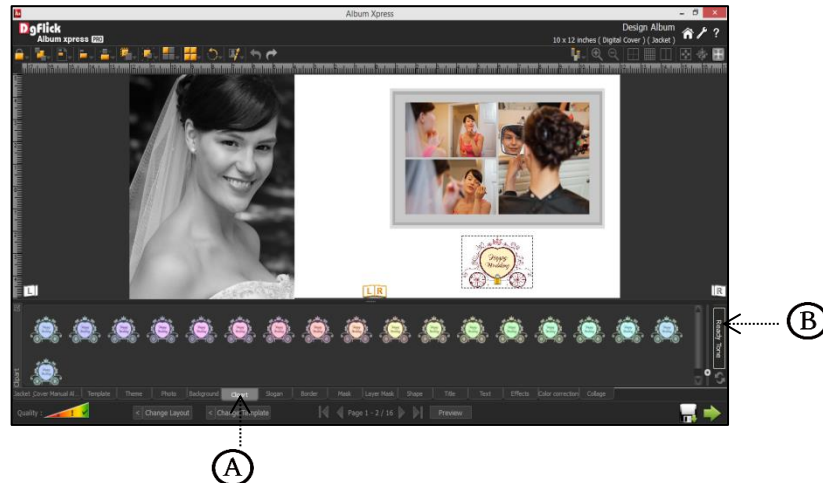
- ❖ The shape will send to the back of the grid. Align the grid at the center of the shape from the 'Object Based Alignment' tab with the help of 'Center' option.



Grid aligned at the center of the shape

Clipart

- ❖ Click on the 'Clipart' tab ^(A) on the option bar for a listing on the available clip-arts. You get cliparts of different categories.
- ❖ Double click on the clip-art of your choice or drag and drop it onto the canvas to use it on the page.
- ❖ You could even use your own clip-arts by accessing them using , where the last 15 paths accessed are available.
- ❖ Click on 'Ready Tone' button ^(B) to access the ready tones for the clip-arts. There are 18 ready tones available for each clipart and you could use the color of your choice depending on your page setup by double clicking on the ready tone.




'Design Album' window -Clipart added with ready tone options

- ❖ In the same way, you can add cliparts on the page and manage their place.
- ❖ You can apply various effects to the clipart from the 'Effects' tab.
- ❖ Here colorize effect has been applied from the 'Colorize' option. The color has been chosen with the help of color picker.



'Colorize' effect applied to clipart and customized

- ❖ To align the clipart on the page, you may use the grid, which can be made visible with the help of 'Show/Hide Gridlines' icon . The gridlines will appear on the page and you can align the clipart with the reference of it.



Aligning clipart with the reference of gridlines

- ❖ Insert background of your choice from the 'Background' tab.
- ❖ Your page is designed. Navigate the page.
- ❖ Insert the photo and resize it according to your design. Place the photo at the desired place.

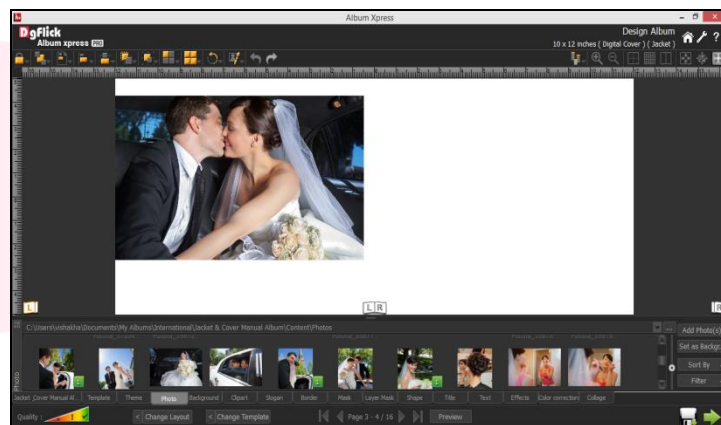
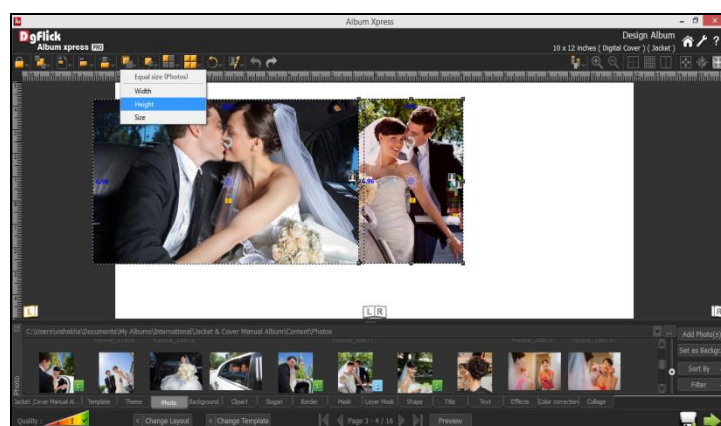


Photo inserted, resized and placed

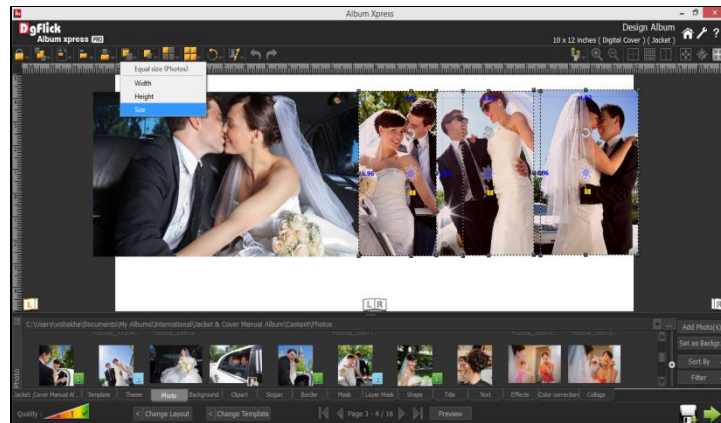
- ❖ Insert one more photo and to make both the photos equal in height, select the first photo and then the second photo. From the 'Equal Size' tab, select the 'Height' option to make the height equal.



Height equalized with 'Equal Size' tab

- ❖ Manage the photo placement and add two more photos.

- ❖ To make the three photos equal in size, select first photo and then the remaining two photos and from the 'Equal Size' tab, select 'Size' option.



Size equalized

- ❖ From 'Effects' tab, effects can be applied on photos. Select the photo and apply effect from 'Effects' tab.



Effect applied on one photo

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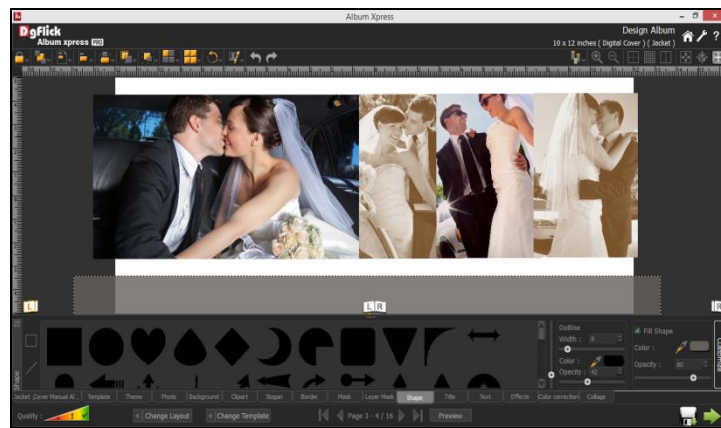
Right Clicking

While creating the Album, at any point, you could select a photo and use the right click to access the 'Effects' option directly. You could also copy and paste effects from one photo to another and clear existing effects on a photo.



Effect copied and pasted on other photo

- ❖ Add a shape from the 'Shape' tab and customize it with 'Custom' option.




Shape added and customized

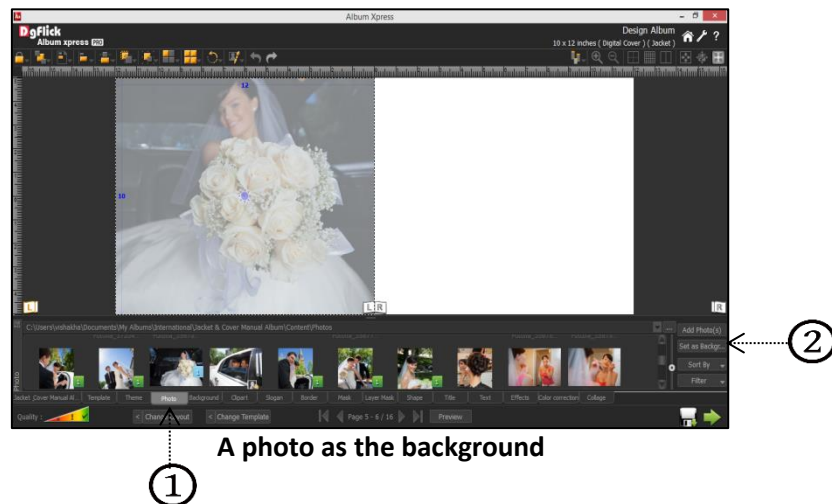
Slogan

- ❖ Go to the 'Slogan' tab. Here you get various ready slogans.
- ❖ You can insert the desired slogan by double clicking on it.

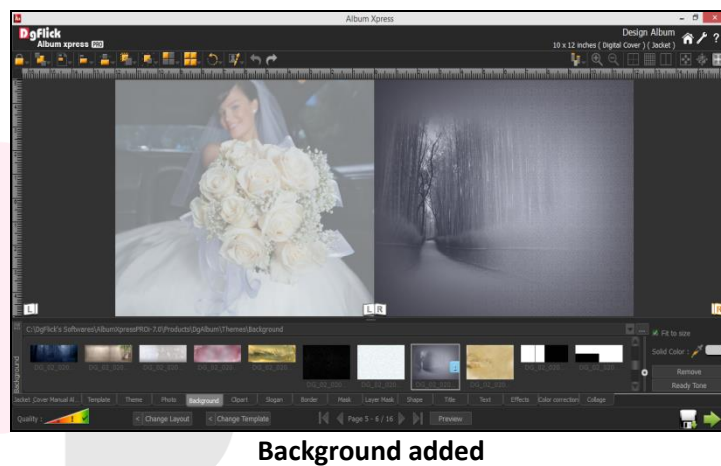


'Slogan' tab - Inserting slogan

- ❖ You can also generate 18 ready tones of slogan by using 'Ready Tones' option.
- ❖ To reset the ready tone, use the 'Reset' button .
- ❖ You can browse from the 'Browse's button and import any JPG or PNG file as slogan.
- ❖ If you want to apply any effect on slogan, you can apply it on slogan from 'Effects' tab.
- ❖ Navigate the page from the available navigator.
- ❖ You could also use a photo of your choice as the background for the Album page. To do this, click on the 'Photo' tab ^① to view the photos. Select the photo and click on 'Set as Background' ^② at the top and then double click on the photo. The photo now serves as a background to the page.



- ❖ You can also add background in addition to the photo. Add a background from the 'Background' tab.



- ❖ Insert a photo from the 'Photo' tab and resize and place it as per the design.



- ❖ To make the space above and below the photo equal, place the photo at the vertical center of the page with 'Vertical Center' option in 'Page Based Alignment' tab.

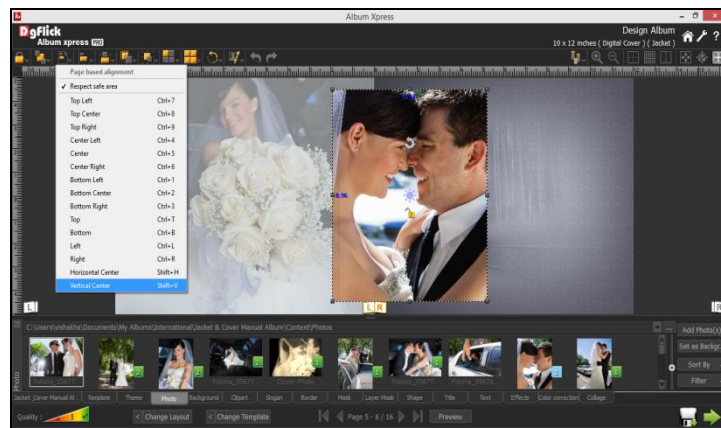
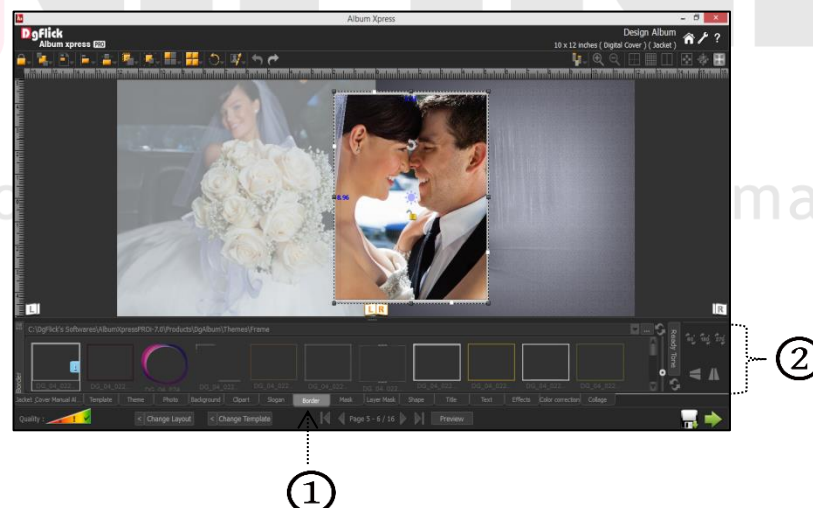


Photo aligned at the vertical center of the page with 'Page Based Alignment' tab

Border







- ❖ Click on 'Border' tab ① on the 'Design Album' window to select the border that you want for the photo.
- ❖ You can view different categories of border according to their style. You get borders of Creative, Ornamental, Simple and Traditional style.
- ❖ You could browse and select a border of your choice from the path in which you have saved it.
- ❖ If you select the folder of borders having sub folders, the sub folders will appear in the place of styles. In this way, you can access multiple folders easily.






① The border applied to the photo

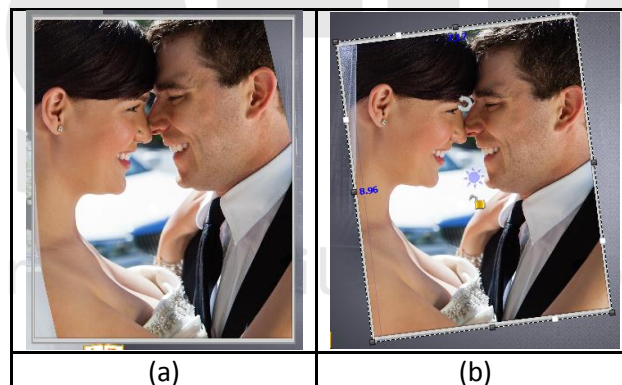
- ❖ Double click on the border or drag and drop the border on the photo to apply.
- ❖ You could change the color of the border to better suit the photo by clicking on the 'Ready Tone' button. There are 18 ready tones available for use.
- ❖ Reset the border with the 'Reset' button.
- ❖ Choose the ready tone you want and double click on it to apply it to the photo border.
- ❖ You can transform these borders freely on the page.

! Additional icons on the 'Design Album' – Border tab:

- 'Reset' : To reset the ready tone.
- 'Flip Vertical' : To flip the border vertical.
- 'Flip Horizontal' : To flip the border horizontally.
- 'Rotate CW90' : To rotate the border 90 degrees.
- 'Rotate CW180' : To rotate the border 180 degrees.
- 'Rotate CW270' : To rotate the border 270 degrees.

Rotating Photos

- ❖ Rotating photos in an Album keeping the creative design in mind adds to the overall presentation of the pages. Album Xpress gives you the option of either rotating the photo within the frame or rotating the whole picture along with the frame.
- ❖ To rotate the photo within the frame: keep your cursor on the rotate icon  that is seen when you select a photo. Once the 'hand' symbol appears use the mouse to rotate it in the direction of your choice.
- ❖ To rotate the photo along with the frame: 'Unlock' the photo by clicking on . Now keep your cursor on  and use the mouse to rotate the photo with the frame when the 'hand' appears.



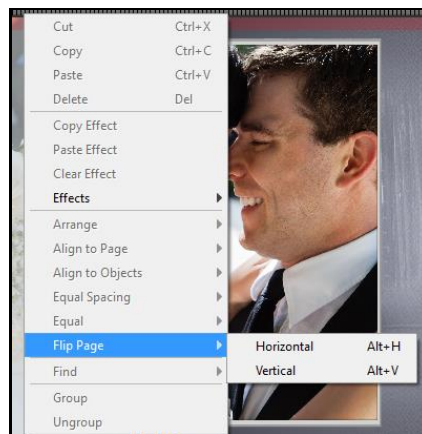
Rotating: (a) the photo in the frame; (b) the photo with the frame

Right Clicking

- ❖ While working on Album Xpress, you could use the right click button to get several options right then and there.
- ❖ Right clicking outside photos: As seen in image, right clicking outside photos lets you access the following options directly:
 - The 'Effects' option- Give effects like Colorize, Blur, Opacity, Feather, Shadow Glow, Outline, Rotation, Presets and Blend.
 - The 'Flip' option to flip the page either vertically or horizontally.
 - If you have selected any object, which is a group of multiple objects, then you can ungroup it from

'Ungroup' option.

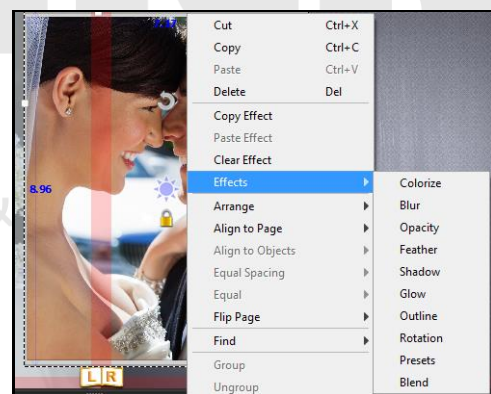
- If you have selected multiple objects, and right click, then you get 'Group' option to group selected objects.



Right clicking outside photos

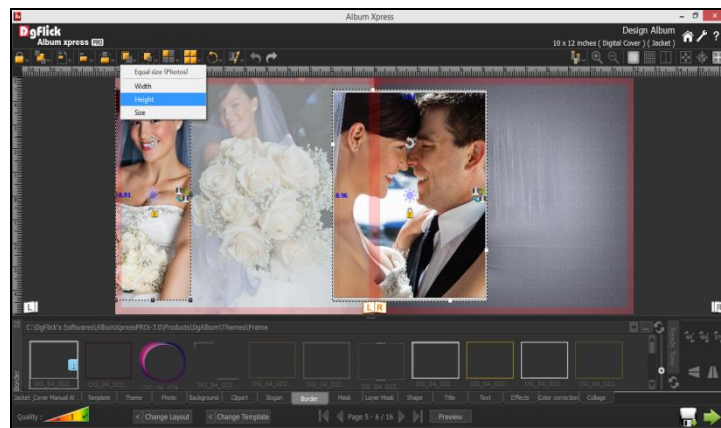
- ❖ Right clicking on the photos: Using right click after selecting a photo lets you access the following options directly:

- Cut, copy, paste (in case an element has been copied) and delete.
- The 'Effects' option- Give effects like Colorize, Blur, Opacity, Feather, Shadow, Glow, Outline, Rotation, Presets and Blend and copy, paste and clear effect.
- Arrange objects- Send to Back, Send Backward, Bring to Front and Bring Forward.
- Align to page- Top Left, Top Center and so on.
- The 'Flip' option to flip the page either vertically or horizontally.
- The 'Find' option to find the source of the object.



Right clicking on the photos

- ❖ Add one more photo, resize it, and place it according to the design. Make the height of these two photos equal by using 'Height' option in 'Equal Size' tab.



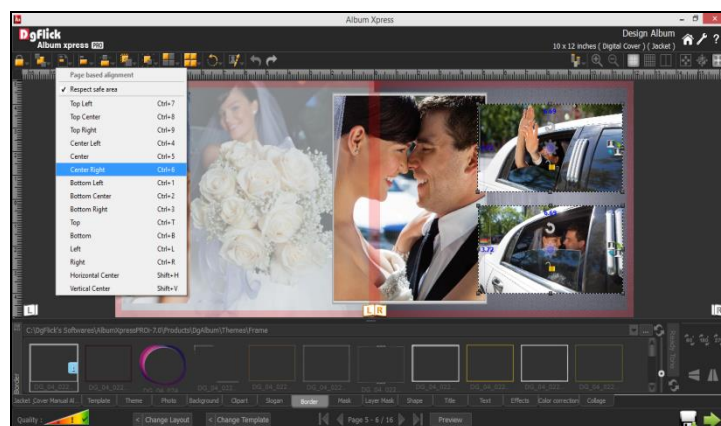
Height of two photos equalized

- ❖ Add two photos and resize one photo according to the design. Now make another photo of the same size with 'Size' option in 'Equal Size' option.



Photos added and size equalized

- ❖ Align the photos to the center right of the page by respecting the safe area. To align them, go to the 'Page Based Alignment' tab and check the 'Respect Safe Area' option. Use the 'Center Right' option and align the photos. You may manually move the photos and place them.



Photos aligned with the help of 'Page Based Alignment' tab

- ❖ If you want to apply the same border that is applied to another photo, select the bordered photo and right click on it.
- ❖ You will get a 'Find' option, in which you will a 'Border' sub menu. Choose this option to find the 'Border' in the 'Border' tab. The border will get displayed in 'Border' tab.



Finding border

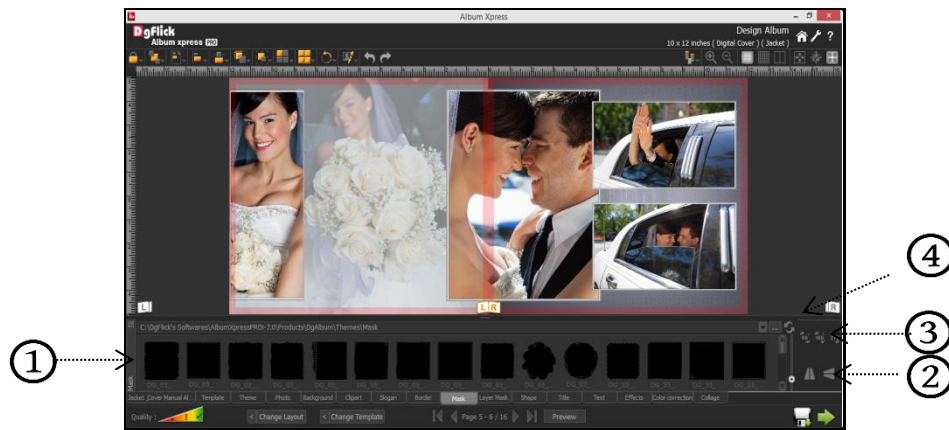
- ❖ Select the photos to which you want to apply the border and apply the border by double clicking on it.



Borders applied to multiple photos

Mask

- ❖ Click the 'Mask' tab on the option bar to select the mask of your choice.
- ❖ You get different types of masks in Album Xpress. You get masks of the abstract, decorative, halftone, one side, shape and simple style. Just select the style of the mask from the categories ①.
- ❖ Select the photo to which you want to apply the mask and double click on the mask or drag and drop the mask on the photo to apply it. You could even access the previous 15 paths.



'Design Album' window – 'Mask' tab

- ❖ You can transform these masks freely on the page.

! Additional Icons on 'Mask' tab

- 'Reset' ^④: To reset the changes.
- 'Rotate CW90' ^③: To rotate the border 90 degrees.
- 'Rotate CW180' ^③: To rotate the border 180 degrees.
- 'Rotate CW270' ^③: To rotate the border 270 degrees.
- 'Flip Vertical' ^②: To flip the border vertical.
- 'Flip Horizontal' ^②: To flip the border horizontally.

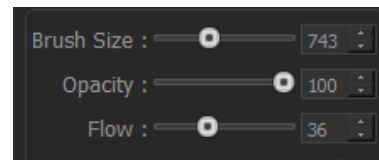
Layer Mask *



- ❖ In addition to the masks given in the 'Mask' tab, you can also give a layer mask to the photo.
- ❖ Go to 'Layer Mask' tab. select the photo and brush from the available brushes.
- ❖ Click on the part of the photo where you want to apply that brush. The part of the photo will disappear.
- ❖ The photo will get different look. You can apply brush anywhere on the photo to apply mask. Here layer mask is applied on a sample for user's knowledge.




Layer mask applied on sample photo

- ❖ You can manage brush size, opacity and flow of the brush from the given sliders in 'Layer Mask' tab.



- ❖ You can apply correction by keeping control key pressed on your keyboard. The corrected area will display the photo again.
- ❖ Keep shift key pressed to create mask horizontally. The mask will be applied horizontally.
- ❖ Keep Alt key pressed to create mask vertically. The mask will be applied vertically.
- ❖ In this way you can apply different brushes and give attractive look to the photo.
- ❖ Once you finish with applying the mask, click on the 'Exit' button  to exit from applying mask.
- ❖ You can reset mask from the photo by using 'Clear' button  after selecting the photo.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

- ❖ You can view the helping hands for layer masking from .

Note :
Keep Ctrl key pressed to activate correction mode.
Keep Shift key pressed to create mask horizontally.
Keep Alt key pressed to create mask vertically.

Helping hands for layer masking

- ❖ Navigate the page from the available navigator.
- ❖ Insert a photo from 'Photo' tab and resize it.

Split Photo

- ❖ You can split a photo in rows and column and can give a different look to the album page.
- ❖ Insert a photo from the 'Photo' tab.

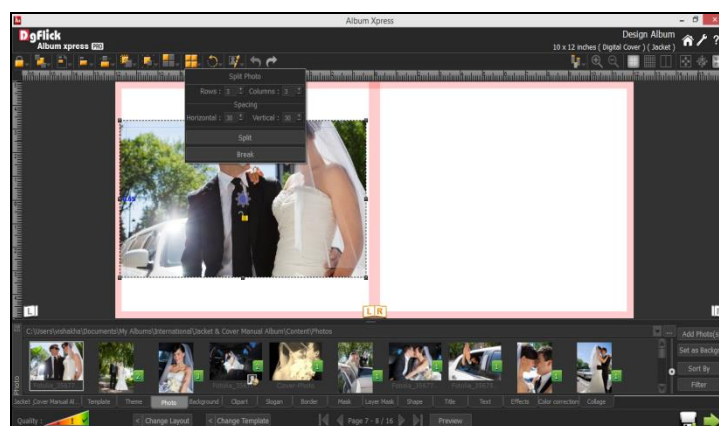
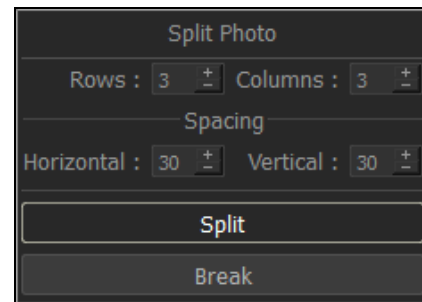


Photo inserted and the 'Split Photo' tab

- ❖ Select the photo and define the rows and column to split the photo in 'Split Photo' tab.
- ❖ Manage the horizontal and vertical spacing between two parts of the photo.
- ❖ Once you define all the parameters, to split the photo and click on the 'Split'



'Split Photo' option

- ❖ The photo will be split. You can resize the photo and place it at the place you want.

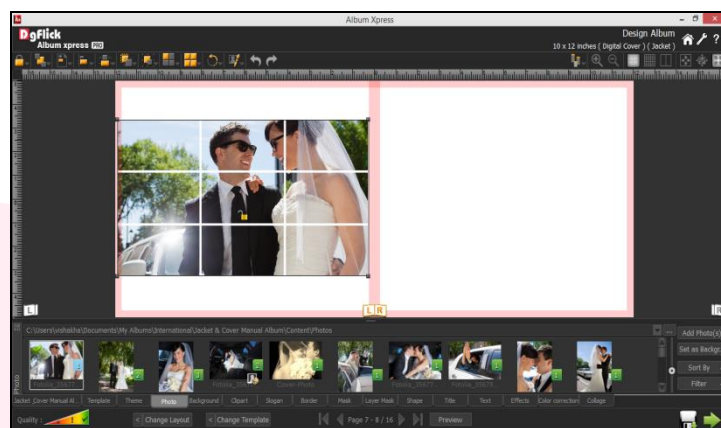
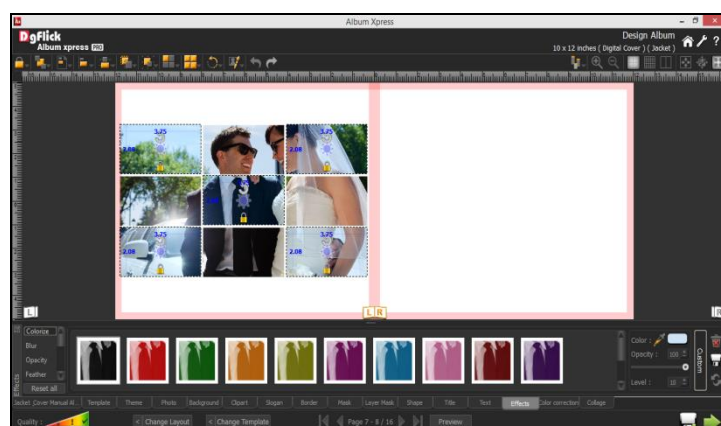


Photo split into defined rows and columns

- ❖ All the parts of the photo are in a group. To break this group, use the 'Break' option in the 'Split Photo' option.
- ❖ You can apply different effects to the different parts of the photo. Select the part of the photo by double clicking in it and give effect from the 'Effects' tab.



'Effects' tab with some part of the photos selected and effect applied

- ❖ In the same way, you can split photo and create a wonderful design.
- ❖ Add one photo and resize it. To place the photo at the exact center of the right page, select the right page and select the photo. From 'Page Based Alignment' tab, select 'Center' option and align the photo.

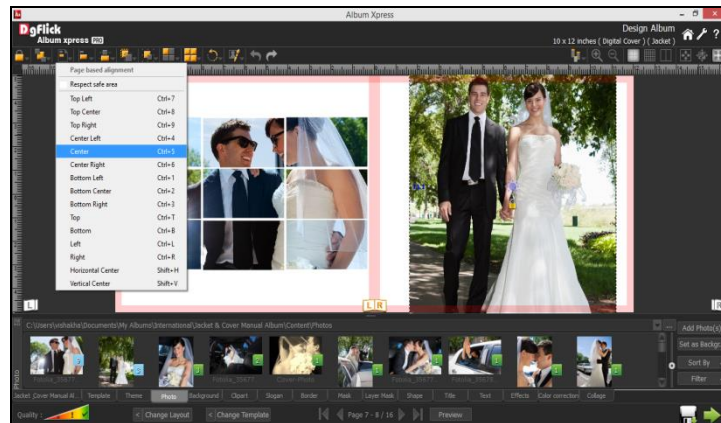


Photo added and aligned

- ❖ Apply 'Outline' effect from the 'Effects' tab.



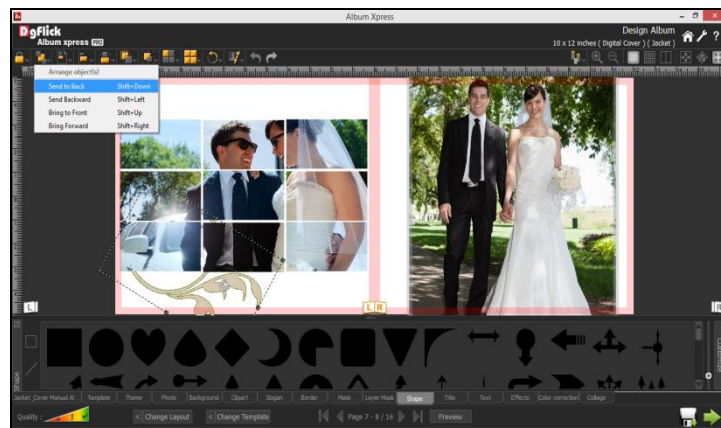
'Outline' effect applied

- ❖ To give attractive look to the page various shapes can be added and used at the background of the page.
- ❖ Go to the 'Shape' tab and insert a shape according to the design. Use the 'Custom' option to customize the shape. Resize the shape and place it on the place according to the design of the page you want to create.



Shape added and customized

- ❖ To send this shape at the back of the photo, select the shape and from the 'Arrange Objects' tab, select the 'Send to Back' option.



Shape sent to back of the photo

- ❖ You can resize this shape and place it on desired locations of the page to fill the page. To rotate and flip shapes, you can use various options 'Rotate' Objects' tab.




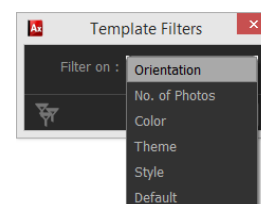
Multiple shapes added and arranged

- ❖ Insert a desired background from the 'Background' tab if needed.

Digital World for Still & Motion Imaging

Template tab

- ❖ Select the page side from left, right and both on which you want to apply template. Go to the 'Template' tab. Here you will see the templates for the page. The templates are categorized into various categories.
- ❖ From the 'template bank', you can filter your search and get the templates as per your requirements by clicking on . The categories are Orientation, No. of Photos, Color, Theme, Style and the Default option.
- ❖ Once the category is chosen, the options under that category can be viewed in the drop-down box to the left of the category icon. Select your subcategory to further refine your search for suitable templates. Album Xpress comes loaded with more than 2,000 ready-to-use templates and thus it gives you a wide variety of templates to choose from.
- ❖ Select the category of your choice and insert the desired template by double clicking on it. The template will be inserted and will appear on the page.





Template appeared on the page

- ❖ Now go to the 'Photo' tab and insert the photos by double clicking on it. The photos will automatically get into the design.

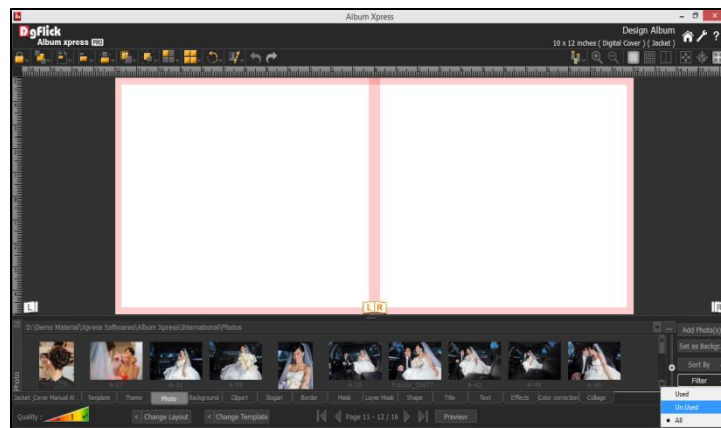


Photos inserted into the template

- ❖ In this way, you can insert templates and photos and design album pages.
- ❖ Navigate the page from the available navigator.

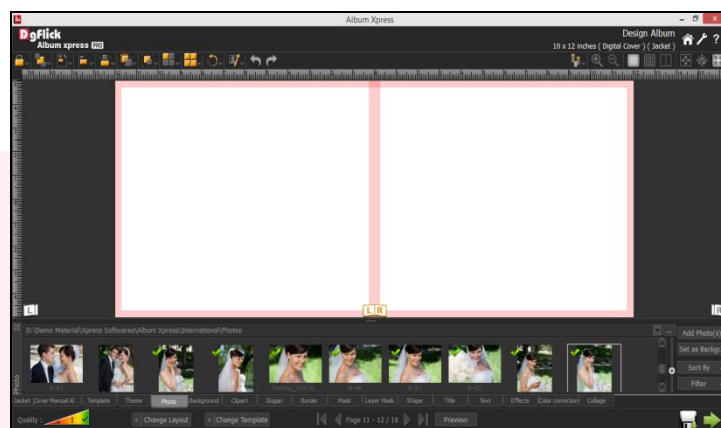
Collage

- ❖ Album Xpress provides you the facility of creating a collage of your remaining unused photos in the Album.
- ❖ Go to the 'Photo' tab. You can filter the photo according to their used status. I.e. you can view used and unused photos only.
- ❖ From the 'Filter' drop down menu, select the 'Used' option. The photos, which are used in this album creation so far, will be displayed.
- ❖ Similarly, you can view unused photos too. This helps you to decide the use of the photos on remaining pages.
- ❖ To view all the photos, select 'All' option in filter option.



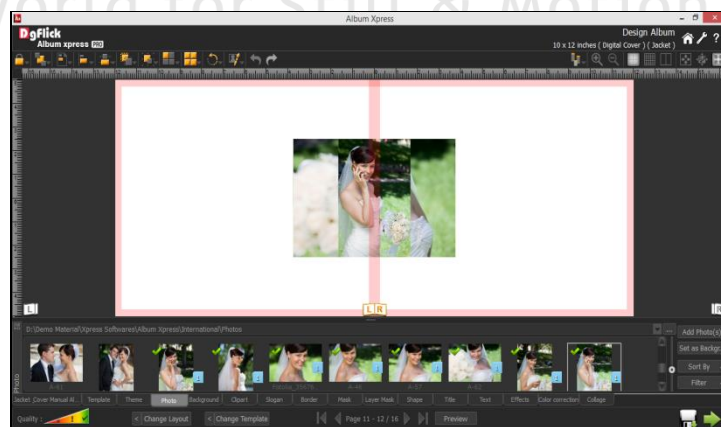
Filtering photos

- ❖ Now to insert multiple photos at a time, keep the control key pressed and keep on selecting the photos you want to insert.



Multiple photos selected to insert

- ❖ Use the 'Add Photos' button to insert all the photos at once.



Multiple photos inserted

- ❖ To create a collage with the photos, click on 'Collage' tab on the option bar.
- ❖ Expanded collage will be created with Expand option. Here the photographs get overlapped that too with uneven sizes. Click on to create the photo collage to see the expand effect.



The 'Expanded' Collage design with Collage tab

- ❖ 'Fit' option in collage tab will help you to design collage page without much overlap. Create Photo Collage button should be press to apply the changes.
- ❖ Crop the photos and then form a collage with 'Crop'. The photos will set in the same size on the page.



The 'Cropped' collage design

- ❖ Click on Background tab on the option panel to apply the background for the collage. Double click on the desired background or drag and drop it.
- ❖ You could alter the maximum and minimum angles of tilt for the photos by using the sliders for the angles or by manually inserting the values in the value boxes. Then click on to create photo collage.
- ❖ You could add outlines, shadow effects, and colorize the photos in your collage. For adding outlines to the photos in the collage, select the 'Outline' option on the option bar. Then click on to apply outlines. Outlines are now added to the photos.

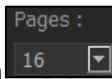
- ❖ To add a shadow effect to your photos, select the option on the option bar. Then click on to apply the shadow effect to the photos. The shadow effect is now seen on the photos in the collage.



The 'Shadow' option applied to the collage. (a) before (b) after

- ❖ To 'colorize' the photos in the collage, select the checkbox of 'Colorize' from Collage tab, then click on to add the effect to the collage photos. The photos in the collage now display the colorize effect.
- ❖ After the photos are inserted on all the Album pages, the Album is ready and you could make the final modifications to it before moving on to printing.

My Album

- ❖ As you design one page after the other, you can view the Album page wise on My Album tab.
- ❖ You can alter the number of pages in the Album by clicking on , where you have the choice of selecting Album pages ranging from 16 to 200.
- ❖ For Custom sizes, available Album pages are ranging from 16 to 500.
- ❖ When you choose to reduce the number of pages, a textbox for confirmation of deletion of pages from the end appears.
- ❖ Clicking on 'Yes' will let you proceed as desired.
- ❖ In this way, the Album is ready to save and Export. (Refer section Saving and Exporting)

5.3. Manage the Photos

In this section, we will learn how to manage the photos.

After selecting Category, Size and theme, we are redirected to 'Select Photos' window. On the 'Select Photos' window select the photos of which you want to create the Album.

- ❖ On the 'Select Photos' window, you have the option of selecting the photos from ② the

Hard disk

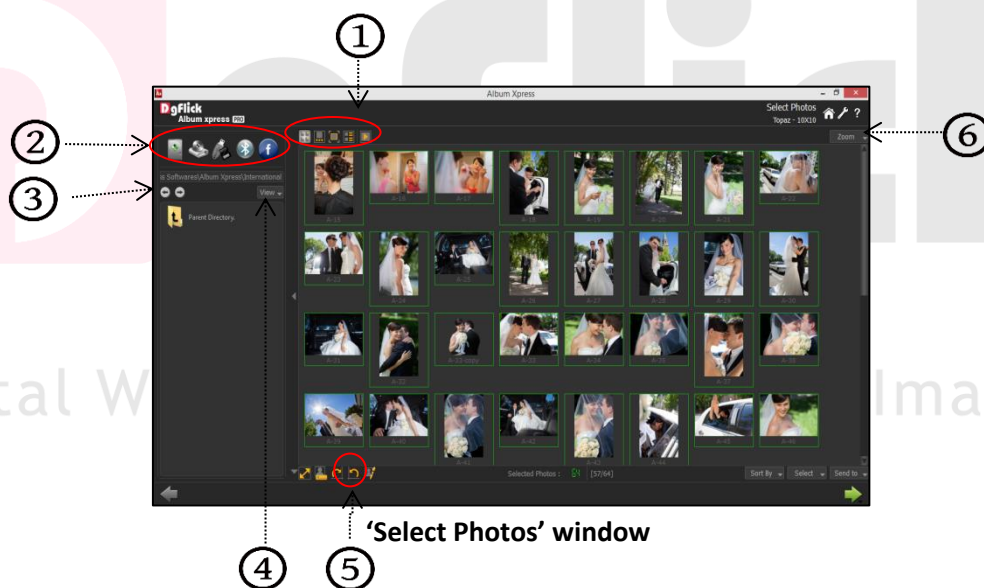
CD/DVD

USB

Bluetooth

Facebook


- ❖ Select any of the media where the photos have been saved.

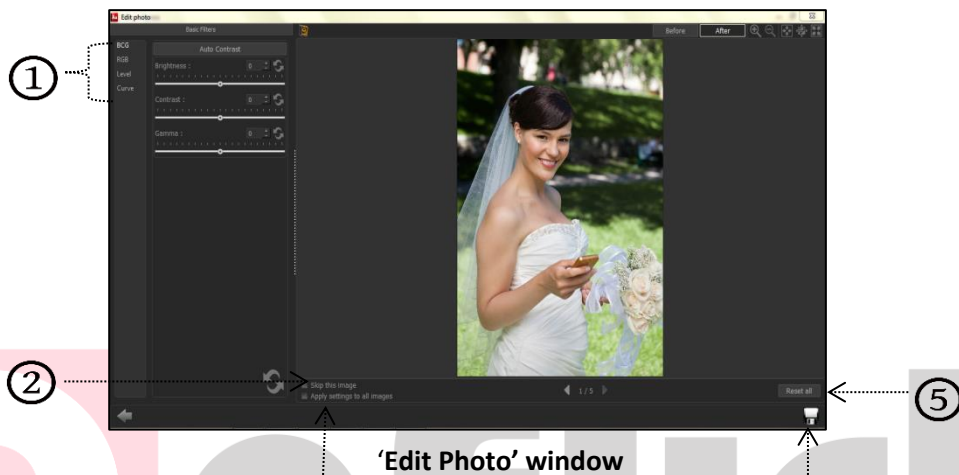


'Select Photos' window

- ❖ Go forward or backward from here ③.
- ❖ View your folders in list or icon style from here ④.
- ❖ This button ⑥ on the top right corner of the window to zoom in/out the photos.
- ❖ The top option bar ① helps you to view the photos in different ways


- Thumbnail style.
- Filmstrip view.
- Navigate the photos from and .
- To get a full view of the photo.
- Get the photos list wise.
- Starts the slide show

- ❖ Select the photos to be rotated. Here you can rotate the multiple photos.
- ❖ Select 'Rotate Clockwise' or 'Rotate Counterclockwise' icons ⑤ to rotate the photos.
- ❖ 'Edit Photo' button*  at the lower option bar helps you to edit multiple photos at a time.
- ❖ On the 'Edit Photo' window, access color correction options ① like 'BCG' is to adjust the brightness, contrast and gamma; 'RGB' is to adjust the color tones, 'Level' is to adjust the input and output levels of the photo; and 'Curve' is to adjust the RGB color.



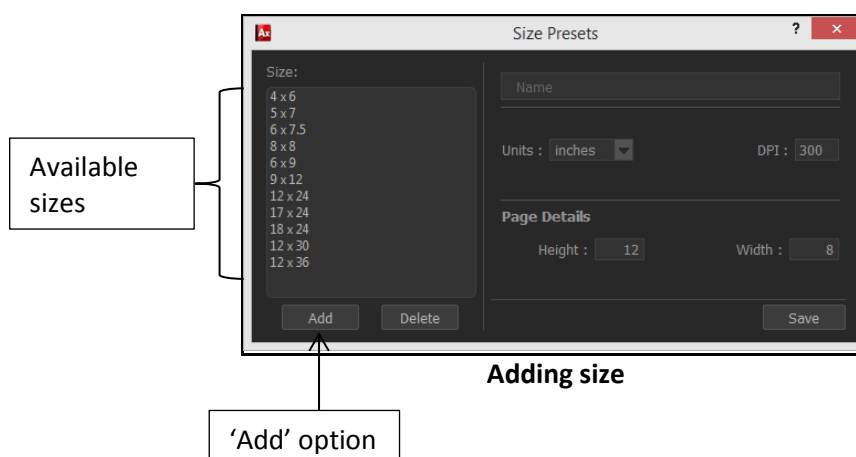
- ❖ If you do not wish to apply the changes on the current photo, click on 'Skip This Image' ②.
- ❖ To apply changes to all the selected photos, click on 'Apply settings to all images' ③.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset all' button ⑤ to reset all the changes done.
- ❖ Click on 'Save' ④ to save all the changes made.
- ❖ Clicking on Save will create a folder for original image and will save the changes made on the copy of the image, without affecting the original image.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

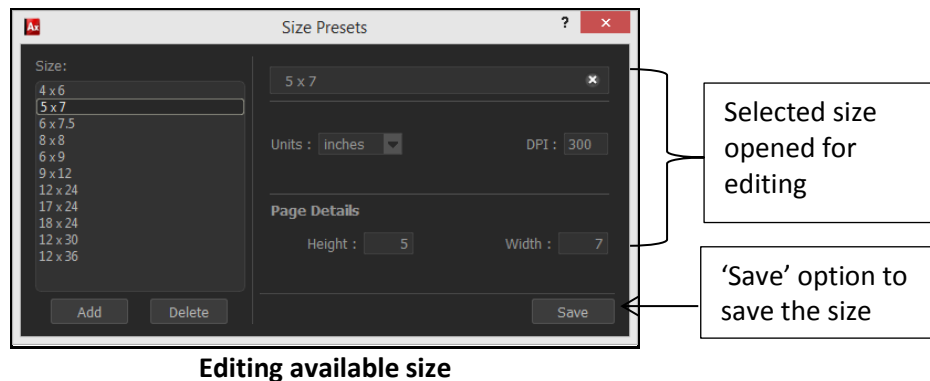
- ❖ Select 'Resize' option  to change the size of the photos.
- ❖ A 'Resize' window will open on the screen.



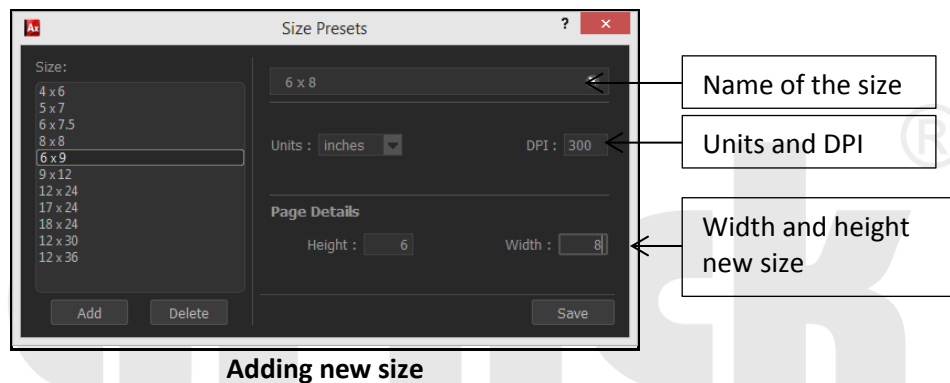
- ❖ Check the green checkbox ④ of the images to be resized.
- ❖ If you do not want to resize any selected image, uncheck the checkbox.
- ❖ Select the desired percentage from 'Percentage' ⑤ tab if you want to resize the images percentage wise.
- ❖ From the 'Original' ③ and 'New' ② tab you can see the changes applied. The 'Quality' tab ① indicates the quality of the images. The quality of images used here must be good to ensure clarity in the final product.
- ❖ Album Xpress has an in-built 'Quality Indicator', which warns you whenever the images quality goes below the required standards.
- ❖ Go to 'Size' ⑥ tab if you want to resize the images size wise.
- ❖ In the drop down menu, you will see various available sizes. Select any existing size in which you want to resize images.
- ❖ If you want to resize in any new size, click on 'Edit' option. A window will appear.
- ❖ Here an Image size is been added to make you familiar with the process.



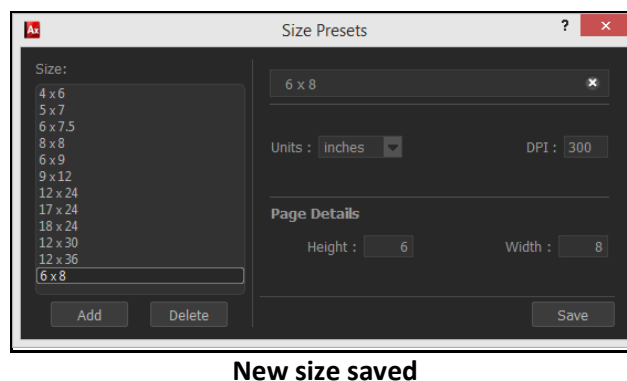
- ❖ To edit any of the available sizes, click on the desired size. The selected size will appear in the window.




- ❖ Edit the desired parameters and save the changes with 'Save' button.
- ❖ You can add new size by clicking on 'Add' option located below available size list.
- ❖ Define the name for the new size in the 'Name' textbox.

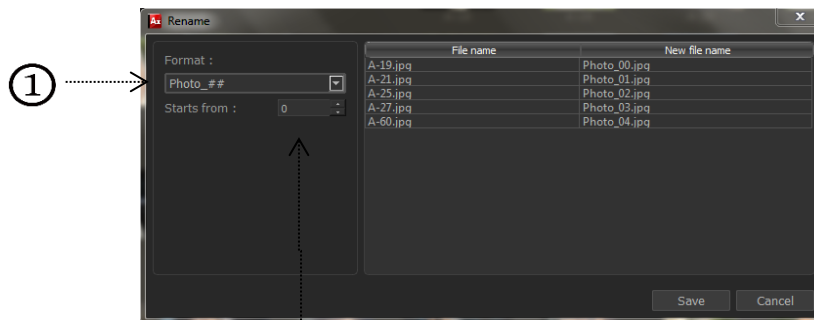


- ❖ Define the units and DPI for the new size from 'Units' and 'DPI' option.
- ❖ You need to define the width and height of the new size in the 'Width' and 'Height' textbox.
- ❖ Save the size with 'Save' button. Once you save the size, it will be added to the size list.



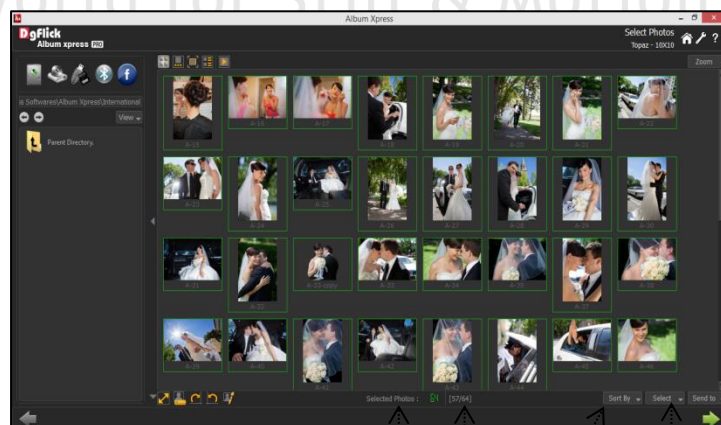
- ❖ In this way, you can add new sizes. Add more sizes by clicking on 'Add' option.
- ❖ Once you finish adding sizes, close the window.
- ❖ From the drop down menu, select the size for the resizing.

- ❖ If you want to maintain aspect ratio while resizing, check the 'Maintain Aspect Ratio' checkbox.
- ❖ After resizing the images click on 'Save' ⑦ to overwrite the changes over the existing images.
- ❖ Select the 'Rename' option  to rename the photos.
- ❖ Manually change the photo name format from format ① option.
OR
- ❖ From 'Starts From' option ② you can change the count of the photos.



'Rename' window

- ❖ Click on 'Save' ③ to save the changes made.
- ❖ 'Selected Photos' ⑦ shows number of photos selected.
- ❖ ⑧ Here it indicates the position of highlighted photo.
- ❖ Sort the photos in various ways from 'Sort By' button ⑨.



'Select Photos' window

- ❖ Select individual, multiple or all photos or deselect selected photos with this 'Select' button ⑩.
- ❖ Send the edited photos to the Facebook account or any hard disk folder from 'Send to' option ⑫.

- ❖ Select the required photos; the selected ones have the green box around the photo.



- ❖ After selecting the photos and setting its arrangements click on 'Next' button ¹¹ to go to 'Design Album' window, where you can view the Album ready with the selected parameters and can also make any changes if required with the help of various tabs available.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.



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5.4. Resizing the Album

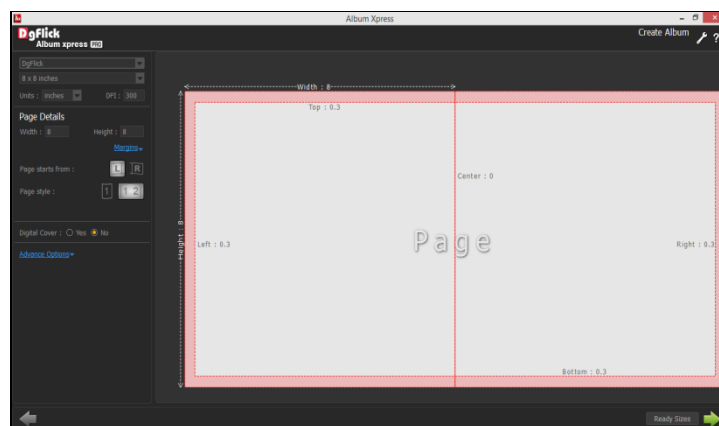
Many a times, after the Album is done or while it is being designed, you might wish to resize it to another set of specifications. This is where the 'Resize the Album' function available in Album Xpress comes to your aid. Album resizing to another size may help you to design parent album in no time without design cut or squeeze.

- ❖ Let's say, as an example, that you have created 'Custom size', size 20 X 40 for the Album.



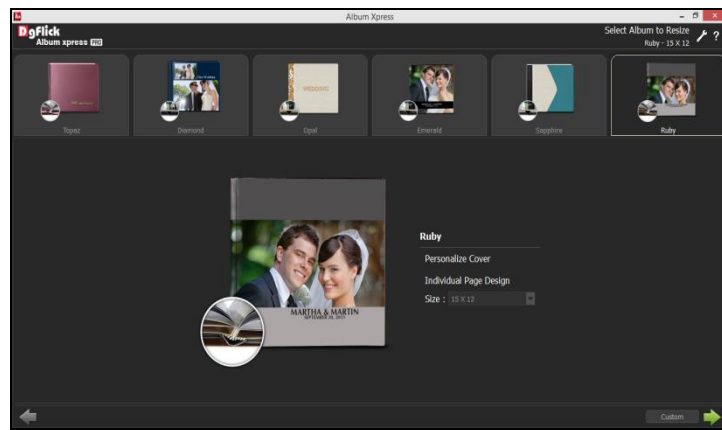
'Design Album' using 'Custom Size' 20 X 40

- ❖ Click on 'Resize Project' ^(A) on the Project tab to change the size of the Album.
- ❖ You will be redirected to the 'Create Album' window, where you need to define the size for album. Either define the size here or to resize the album in ready sizes, click on the 'Ready Sizes' option.



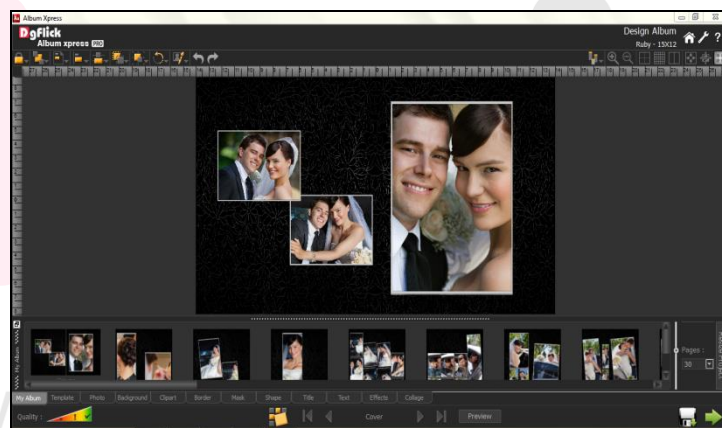
'Create Album' window

- ❖ On the next window – 'Select Album to Resize' – select the category and size that you want to resize the Album into, say 'Ruby' and size 15 X 12.



'Select Album to Resize' – 'Ruby' and size '15 X 12'

- ❖ Click on 'Next' button ① to resize the project.
- ❖ The Album is now resized to category of your choice, the resized category and size can be seen on the top right hand corner of the 'Design Album' window.
- ❖ In same way, you can resize any created Album in any category and size.



The Album is resized

! At any point during the process, you could click on the 'Back' button to go back to the previous page.

6.0. Building the Framework – Page Composition

In previous section, we learnt how to create Album in various Album creation styles. In this section, we will learn how to align and decorate Album.

6.1. Basic Page Composition

6.2. Advanced Page Composition

6.1. Basic Page Composition

While you are designing the Album, you need flexibility in operations to help you manipulate the photos to achieve the desired layout. Album Xpress gives you this flexibility and more. This section deals with the additional features in the software that helps you in page composition.

Used Photo Indicator

While designing Album you may be dealing with a large number of photos and managing them might turn out to be a cumbersome task. Album Xpress helps you sort the photos and manage them better by indicating the photos that have been used and the number of times they have been used in the Album. This helps you plan the Album with the remaining photos and avoid using the same photos multiple times without being aware that you are doing so.

Green tab on the photo: This indicates the photos used in Album on other page.



Blue tab on the photo: This indicates the photos used in Album on current page.



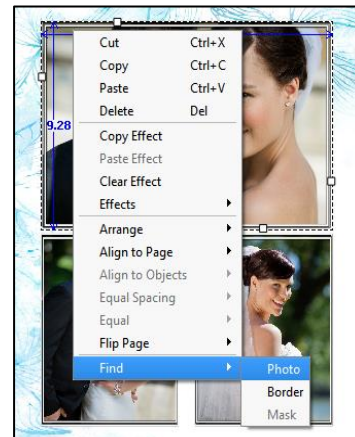
Number on the tab: This indicates the number of times the photo has been used in the Album.

Besides these options, photos can be sorted as 'used' and 'unused' by selecting the 'Used' button on the 'Sort By' button.



Find Photo/Decor

After you are done with an Album, if you need to return to it re-edit later on, you can find the source photographs, borders and mask by simply right clicking on the photo on the Album. Moreover, all the photos appearing on an Album can be identified by the blue tab on them, as described earlier.



The 'Find' option for finding the source of photos, borders and masks

Use Photo as Background

Album Xpress provided you with many backgrounds with its ready tone for the photos. Even you can add your own backgrounds from your hard disk. However, in some instances, to personalize the Album, you might wish to use a photo as a background for an Album. This can be done in an instant using the software. Just select the photo you want to use as background and choose the 'Set as Background' option under the 'Photos' tab on the option bar. The photo is now set as a background.



Setting a photo as background for the Album



Swap Photos

While working on an Album, you might want to swap photos to achieve the desired effect on the Album. Album Xpress lets you do this by just a single click. Just select the photos to be swapped using the Ctrl key. Then click on to swap the photos. This is particularly useful to fit a portrait photo into a portrait frame and vice versa.



Swapping photos (a) Original photos, (b) Swapped Photos, (c) Swap Icon

Lock and Unlock Photos

Album Xpress generally 'locks' photo on the Album to ensure precise designing. This ensures that changes do not happen on the photos by mistake while one is working on the Album. Clicking on the  'lock' icon 'unlocks'  it and now you can move it or resize it as per your wish.

Resize Photo

Within border: In the 'locked' condition, a photo can be enlarged within its frame, by zooming it and adjusting it in the frame. It can even be panned within the frame.

With border: Once the photo is 'unlocked' by clicking on the icon, the photo can be resized according to your size requirements by moving the nodes.

Ensure that the photo stays within 'printable' limits while increasing the size of the photo. Refer the 'Photo Quality Indicator'.

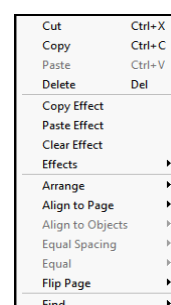
Rotation of Photo

Within border: A photo can be rotated within its frame when it is in the 'locked' state. However, if a border or a mask has been applied to it, it stays in its position while the photo alone rotates within it.

With border: A photo can be rotated along with its border or its mask as a single unit when the photo is in an 'unlocked' state. The photo can now be rotated in all three axis x, y and z to give it a 3D effect.

Copy, Paste and Clear Effects

Album Xpress allows you to cut, copy and paste photos and effects on the photos in the Album. Right click on the element you want to copy and select the 'Copy' option on the drop list. Now paste it on to the location of your choice by right clicking on it and choosing the 'Paste' option.



Flip Decor

Decors like border and mask can be flipped horizontally and vertically, with the help of 'Flip' option provided at the bottom in the respective tabs.

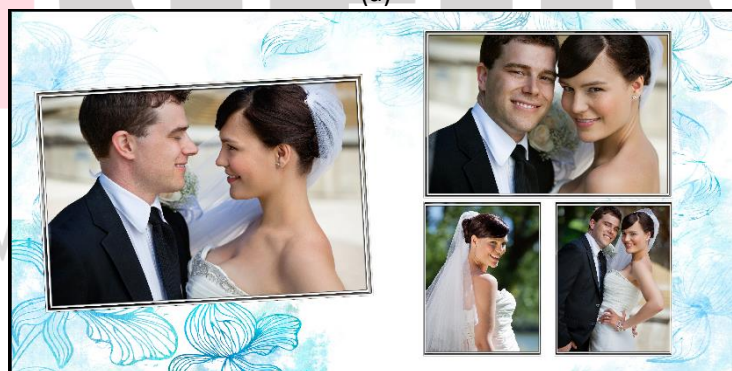


Flip Page

- ❖ Album Xpress gives you the option of flipping a page both horizontally and vertically as per your requirements.
- ❖ Horizontal flip: Right click on the page and select the 'Flip page' option on the drop list. Select 'Horizontal' to flip the page horizontally.



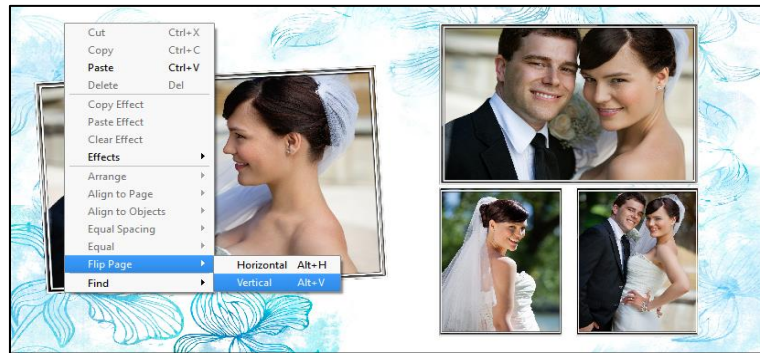
(a)



(b)

Horizontal flipping (a) before flip (b) after flip

- ❖ Vertical flip: Right click on the page and select the 'Flip page' option on the drop list. Select 'Vertical' to flip the page vertically.



(a)



(b)

Vertical flipping (a) Before flip (b) after flip

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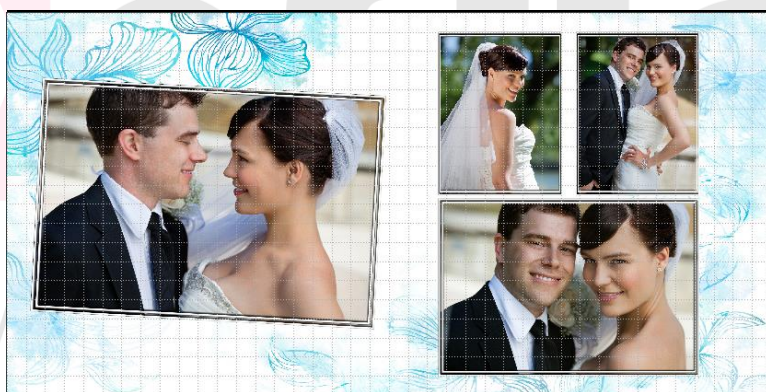
6.2. Advance Page Composition

The following are the options available with Album Xpress for advanced page composition.

Grid and Guideline

Album Xpress gives you the option of using grids and other guidelines such as ruler, margins on the Album; you are designing to help you align the Album better and design with ease.



Grids: On the top, right-hand corner of the Album, click on  to activate the gridlines on the Album you are working on. The grids on the page allow you to align the photos and other elements on the page accurately.



Gridlines activated on the page

Click on the same icon again to deactivate the grids on the page.


Rulers: On the 'Design Album' window, you can view the rulers at the top and on the left of the page. Double click on the ruler to activate it and then drag and drop the green line that appears on to the page at the desired location to align an element against it. You could work with multiple rulers simultaneously. Select and delete the rulers to remove them from the page.

Margins and Centerline: On the top, right-hand corner of the page, click on  to activate the margins on the page. Similarly, click on  to activate the centerline on the page.

Arrange objects

Album Xpress allows you the option of changing the position of an object on the Album i.e. send it backward or forward or to the back or front. Select the photo you wish to move backward or


forward and click on  to access the options under this function.


Alternatively, use the right click button and on the drop list click on 'Arrange' to access the sub-options. Select the object and click on 'Send to back' or 'Bring to front' to move the element to the last or the first position, respectively. Select 'Send backward' or 'Bring forward' to move the object either one-step backward or one-step forward. You can undo the changes by clicking on .

Arrange object(s)	
Send to Back	Shift+Down
Send Backward	Shift+Left
Bring to Front	Shift+Up
Bring Forward	Shift+Right

Object-Based Alignment

This option allows you to align photos with respect to other photos or elements on the Album. There are multiple options for this sort of alignment. Select photos or other elements you wish to align using the Ctrl key. Then click on



 to select the alignment option you wish to apply to the photos from the drop list.

Alternatively, use the right click button and on the drop list click on the 'Object-based alignment' to access the sub-options. You can undo the changes by clicking on .

Object based alignment	
Top Left	Ctrl+Shift+7
Top Center	Ctrl+Shift+8
Top Right	Ctrl+Shift+9
Center Left	Ctrl+Shift+4
Center	Ctrl+Shift+5
Center Right	Ctrl+Shift+6
Bottom Left	Ctrl+Shift+1
Bottom Center	Ctrl+Shift+2
Bottom Right	Ctrl+Shift+3
Top	Ctrl+Shift+T
Bottom	Ctrl+Shift+B
Left	Ctrl+Shift+L
Right	Ctrl+Shift+R
Horizontal Center	Alt+Shift+H
Vertical Center	Alt+Shift+V

Page-Based Alignment

This option allows you to align photos and other elements on the page with respect to the page. There are multiple options for this sort of alignment. If you want the object should be aligned in respect of margins, then check the 'Respect Safe Area' checkbox. Select photos or other elements you wish to align using the Ctrl

key. Then click on  to select the alignment option you wish to apply to the photos from the drop list. Alternatively, use the right click button and on the drop list click on 'Page-based alignment' to access the sub-options. You can apply the page-based alignment to left, right or spread page as per your choice. You can undo the changes by clicking on .

Page based alignment	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Respect safe area	
Top Left	Ctrl+7
Top Center	Ctrl+8
Top Right	Ctrl+9
Center Left	Ctrl+4
Center	Ctrl+5
Center Right	Ctrl+6
Bottom Left	Ctrl+1
Bottom Center	Ctrl+2
Bottom Right	Ctrl+3
Top	Ctrl+T
Bottom	Ctrl+B
Left	Ctrl+L
Right	Ctrl+R
Horizontal Center	Shift+H
Vertical Center	Shift+V

7.0. Nuts & Bolts – Templates, Themes & Decors

This section deals with various available features of template and guides you on how to get more, import as well as Save, Build, share and delete templates and themes.

7.1. Software Templates, Themes & Decors

7.2. Customize your Template & Theme

7.2.1. Get More & Import

7.2.2. Save & Build *

7.2.3. Share*

7.2.4. Delete*

7.1. Software

Templates, Themes & Decors

Album Xpress has varieties of inbuilt templates, Themes and decor options, which offer a wide range of choices in designing Albums. The features are listed here:

- ❖ Album Xpress has more than 1900 ready-to-use templates, which can be accessed by clicking on the 'Template' tab on the option bar. Moreover, these templates come along with the software pack.
- ❖ You can design each page of the Album in a unique manner by applying templates and themes to the right and left pages. The templates and themes can be dragged and dropped on to the pages of the Album and this gives you unlimited possibilities in page design.
- ❖ Album Xpress also has a huge collection of decors for Album designing. These include a variety of backgrounds, cliparts, frames, masks and shapes that help you to present the Album pages in a more artistic and eye-catching manner.
- ❖ Besides the inbuilt decor option, Album Xpress also allows you to use your own backgrounds, borders, cliparts and masks. Any PNG and JPG file can be used as a clipart or as a background and masks or borders can be used directly on the Album pages.
- ❖ Backgrounds, borders and cliparts are made available by a single click of the mouse. Besides, 18 ready-to-use color tones are available for each of these elements and you can change the color of your elements to match the page color. This option is available even for your imported decor.
- ❖ PSD templates can be converted to Ax templates for use while designing the Album. DgFlick also provides PSD to Ax converter application free of cost. To download, visit www.dgflick.com. This software can be used for layer-by-layer conversion of existing Photoshop templates to Ax templates.

! You could download utility from www.dgflick.com or buy relevant CDs/ DVDs.

- ❖ DgFlick releases new template and theme volumes every month to make Album Xpress more and more versatile for the user. These templates and themes can be downloaded or they can be bought in the form of CDs/DVDs.
- ❖ The versatility of Album Xpress enables you to create and save your own templates and themes for future use. Existing templates and themes can be modified and saved as new templates and themes or new templates and themes can be created from scratch using your own or DgFlick's decor elements. These can be saved as templates and themes for later use.

- ❖ With increasing number of users comes the demand for more and more templates and themes. You may 'Build'* your templates and themes in an installable format and these can then be shared with * or sold to other users worldwide.

*Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.*



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7.2. Customize your Template & Theme

This section explains how templates and themes can be imported, saved, built, shared or deleted in Album Xpress.

The versatility of Album Xpress lies in the fact that it gives you a wide range of ready-to-use templates and themes to choose from besides letting you create or modify templates and themes according to your choice. Moreover, templates and themes can be imported from other locations and built and shared* with other Album Xpress users worldwide.

! Save, Build, Share and Delete options are available in the PRO version.



7.2.1. Get more & Import

Get More

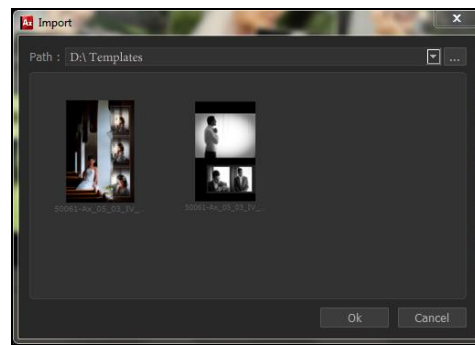
- ❖ DgFlick adds new template collection on the website on regular basis. You can add these templates to your software.
- ❖ On 'Design Album' window, Click on 'Galleria' ③. Click on 'Get More' Button to access more templates from the DgFlick website.
- ❖ You are now routed to www.dgflick.com from where you can download the templates of your choice and proceed to creating the Album.

Note: Same option is also available for themes.

Import

- ❖ Album Xpress software provides you the facility to use your own created or downloaded templates in design creation.
- ❖ For that, you need to import your templates into the software.
- ❖ On 'Design Album' window, Click on 'Galleria' ③. Click on 'Import' Button to Import templates.

- ❖ Access the folder containing your templates by clicking on the browse button and selecting the location.
- ❖ The 15 paths accessed immediately before this instance are saved in the path list box and can be accessed by clicking on the path.
- ❖ Now select the templates from the location and click 'OK' to import them to the Template tab. Now you can apply the same in the Album.



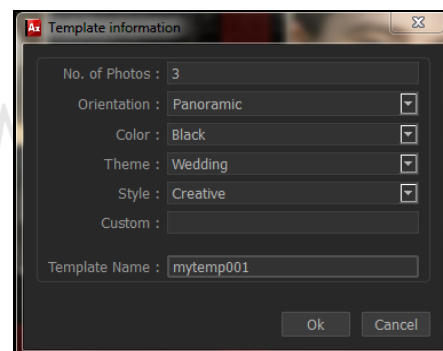
The 'Import' templates window

Note: Same option is also available for themes.



7.2.2. Save & Build *

- ❖ Album Xpress gives you the option of building templates of your own. You can also share them with other users. This option is available only to the users of the Album Xpress PRO version.
- ❖ To start with the building process, first you need to save the template that you want to build.
- ❖ Create the template and click on 'Save' ② at the bottom of the option bar to save the template.
- ❖ In the textbox that appears; enter the template information pertaining to the parameters (except the parameter according to which the template has been filtered).
- ❖ These include No. of Photos, Orientation, Color, Theme, Style, Type and Custom. Depending on the orientation and no. of photos used in the template, here the orientation and no. of photos get detected automatically. You can also enter a name for your template in the relevant box.
- ❖ Click on 'Ok' to proceed and on 'Cancel' to quit the process.
- ❖ To proceed with the building of your templates, click on 'Build' in 'Galleria' menu.



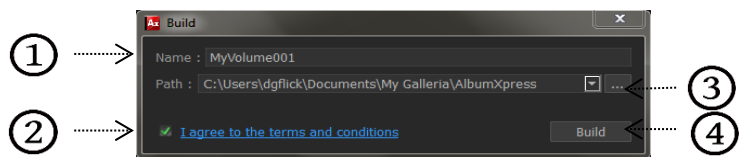
Template information while saving your template



Building your template – 1

- ❖ On the 'Build' window, select the templates and then click on 'Build' option.

- ❖ In the text box that appears in next window, specify the name of the folder ^① in which you wish to save it and the path ^③ where you want to place it.



Building your template - 2

- ❖ If the path is not specified, the built volume is saved in the following path by default: My Documents\My Galleria\Album Xpress.
- ❖ Check the box ^② next to 'I agree to the terms and conditions' and proceed to click on 'Build' ^④.

! If you do not agree to the terms and conditions, close the textbox and quit the building process.

- ❖ One text box will appear which will inform you about successful buildup of templates. Click on the 'OK' button to continue with saving, else click on 'Open' to access the created template.

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! At any point during the process, you could click on the 'Back' button to go back to the previous Album.

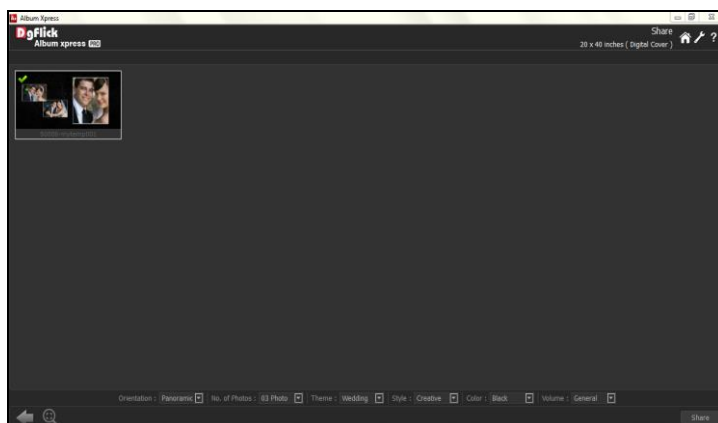
Note: Some features are available only for the Album Xpress PRO version.

Note: Same option is also available for themes.



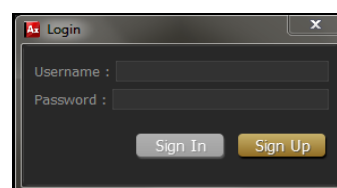
7.2.3. Share *

- ❖ Templates that have been created can be shared with other users by means of the 'Share' option available with Album Xpress. This option is available only to the users of the Album Xpress PRO version.
- ❖ Click on 'Share' in 'Template' tab in 'Design Album' window to share the template that you have created.
- ❖ Select the templates you wish to share and then click on the 'Share' option in 'Galleria' menu.
- ❖ The templates are shared on DgFlick's website.



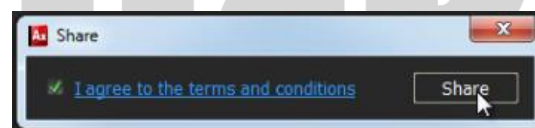
'Share' window Sharing your template

- ❖ You need to log into your account using your username and password to be able to share templates.



Sharing your template – login Album

- ❖ After entering your details, click on the 'Sign In' button to access your account. If you do not have a username and password, click on 'Sign Up' to start an account with DgFlick.
- ❖ On completion of the login process, a textbox asking if you agree to the terms and conditions of template sharing appears.



Sharing your template – terms and conditions

- ❖ If yes, accept the terms and conditions and then click on 'Share' to share the templates you have created and selected for sharing.

*! If you do not agree to the terms and conditions, close the textbox and quit the sharing process.
! At any point during the process, you could click on the 'Back' button to go back to the previous window.*

Note: Some features are available only for the Album Xpress PRO version users.

Note: Same option is also available for themes.

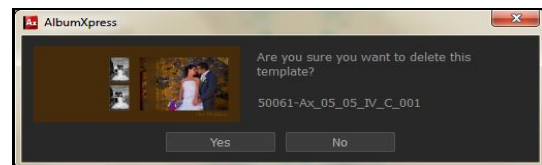


7.2.4. Delete *

Besides building and sharing, Album Xpress also gives you the option of deleting any template that you no longer wish to retain in your template bank.

- ❖ To delete a template, select the template that you wish to delete.
- ❖ Click on 'Delete' ^① at the bottom of the Template tab.

- ❖ A textbox asking for confirmation for deletion appears.
- ❖ Click on 'Yes' to proceed with the deletion, else click on 'No' to abort the process.



Deleting Template

Note: Some features are available only for the Album Xpress PRO version users.

Note: Same option is also available for themes.



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8.0. Fine Tuning – Photo Editing

Album Xpress has inbuilt photo editing tools. You can do basic editing like adjusting brightness and contrast as well as advance editing where chroma removal, lasso cutting, touch up tools will come handy.



8.1. Normal Editing

- 8.1.1. Basic Filters
- 8.1.2. Artistic Filters

8.2. Advance Editing

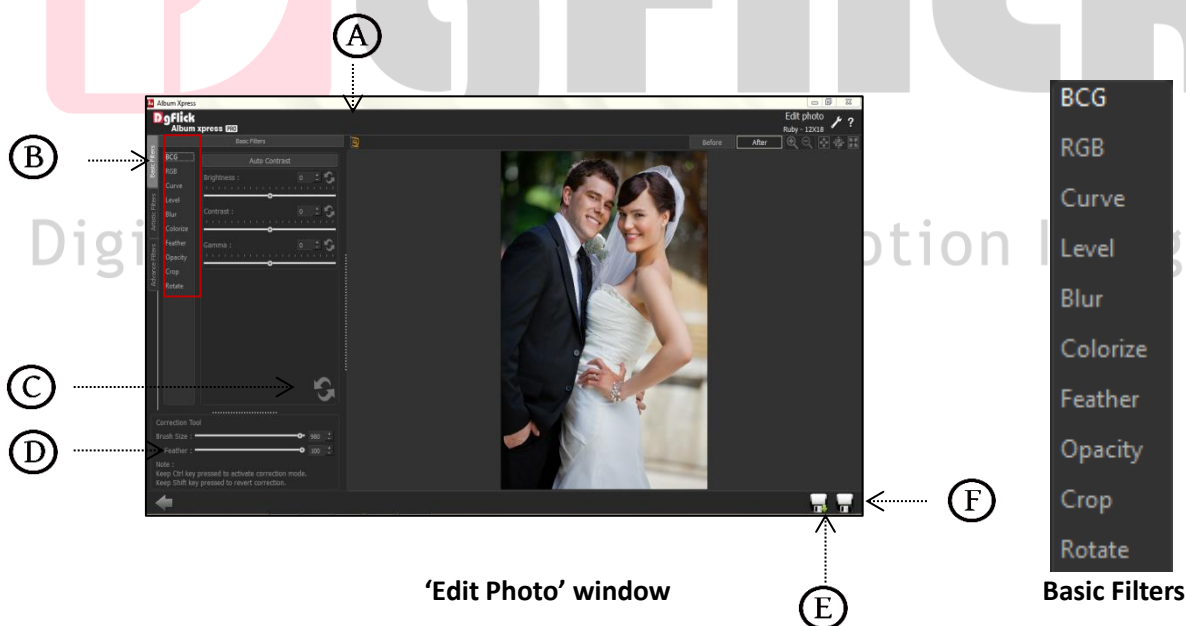
- 8.2.1. Import Plug ins
- 8.2.2. Lasso
- 8.2.3. Chroma
- 8.2.4. Touchup
- 8.2.5. Highlighter
- 8.2.6. Eraser
- 8.2.7. Edit Photo in Photoshop*

8.1. Normal Editing

Album Xpress has Basic Filters and Artistic Filters that help in the editing of photos to be used in Albums. Each of these filters includes several options that help you modify the photos to suit your requirements and they add value to the pages without much effort. This section deals with the additional features in Basic Filters and all the features included under Artistic Filters.

8.1.1. Basic Filters

Features such as BCG correction, RGB color modification, Curve, Level, Crop and Rotation will be explained in detail in this section. You could access these options by clicking on 'Basic Filters' tab (B) on the option bar. This section deals with the filters one by one.



BCG (Brightness, Contrast and Gamma) Color Correction

- ❖ To adjust the brightness, contrast and gamma of the photo, click on the 'BCG' button on the 'Edit Photo' window.
- ❖ Move the sliders for the three parameters forward and backward to achieve the desired effect.

- ❖ Alternatively, you could enter the values for the parameters in the value boxes above the respective sliders.



The 'BCG' option

- ❖ Clicking on the 'Auto Contrast' button **A** at the top will adjust the contrasts automatically
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' **B**

RGB (Red, Green and Blue) Color Correction

- ❖ To adjust the color tones of the photos, you could use the 'RGB' color correction option.
- ❖ Modify the color tone by altering the degree of 'Red', 'Green' and 'Blue' on the color sliders.
- ❖ Alternatively, you could enter the values manually in the value boxes above the respective sliders.
- ❖ Clicking on the 'Auto Color' **A** button at the top will adjust the color automatically.

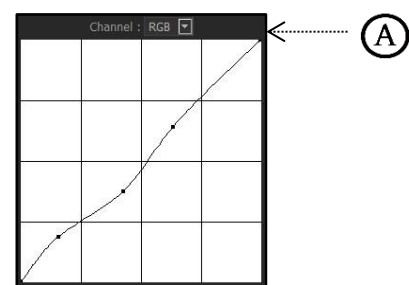


The 'RGB' option

- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' **B**.

Curve

- ❖ Color intensities can be adjusted by clicking on 'Curve' button on the option bar of the 'Edit Photo' window.
- ❖ Select the color to be adjusted (RGB i.e. red, green or blue) from the drop list under the 'Channel' **A** button.
- ❖ Adjust the intensity by clicking on the curve and moving it as per your requirement.

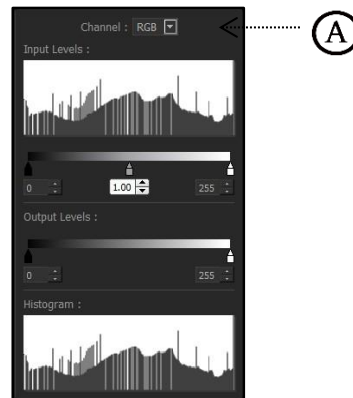


The 'Curve' option

Level

- ❖ To adjust the input and output levels of the photo, click on 'Level' button on the option bar of the 'Edit Photo' window.

- ❖ Select the color for which the input and output levels need to be modified (RGB i.e. red, green or blue) from the drop list under the 'Channel' button (A).
- ❖ Modify the 'Input' and 'Output' level values in the value boxes as required.



The 'Level' option

Blur

- ❖ To give the photo a blurred effect; click on 'Blur' button on the option bar of the 'Edit Photo' window.
- ❖ Adjust the blur level from slider (B) forward and backward to achieve the desired degree of blurring.
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' (A).



The 'Blur' option

Colorize

- ❖ To give a colour-film effect to the photo, click on 'Colorize' option on the option bar under 'Basic Filters'.
- ❖ Select the color from 'Color Picker' or 'Color Palette' (A).
- ❖ Adjust the opacity and level from slider (B).
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' (C).



The 'Colorize' option

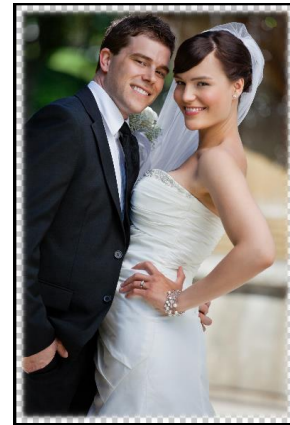
Feather

- ❖ Click on 'Feather' option to give feather effect to the photo.

- ❖ Adjust the feather effect by moving the slider (B) forward and backward or by inserting the value in the value box.
- ❖ It will help you to soften the hard edges of photograph.
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' (A).



The 'Feather' option



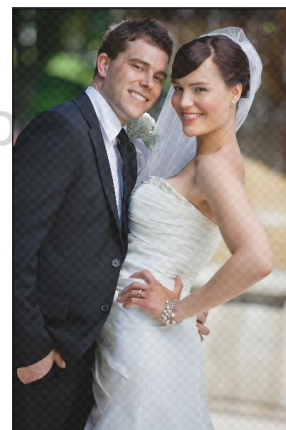
The 'Feather' effect applied to the photo

Opacity

- ❖ Click on 'Opacity' option to give opacity effect to the photo.
- ❖ Adjust the opacity by moving the slider (B) forward and backward or by inserting the value in the value box.
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' (A).



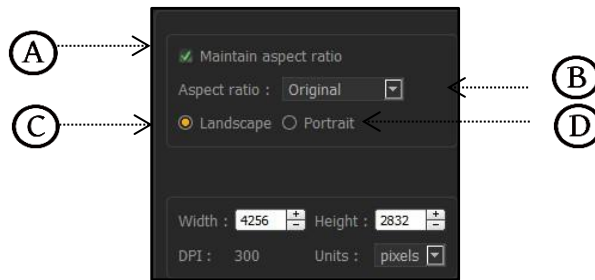
The 'Opacity' option



Applying 'Opacity' to the photo

Crop

- ❖ To crop the photo to the desired dimensions and orientation, click on 'Crop' button on the 'Edit Photo' window.
- ❖ Change the aspect ratio by clicking on the 'Aspect Ratio' box (A) and select the required value.



The 'Crop' option

- ❖ Select the orientation you desire by selecting either 'Landscape' (C) or 'Portrait' (D).
- ❖ You can enter the values for the width and height after selecting the unit you want to work with.
- ❖ Uncheck the 'Maintain Aspect Ratio' checkbox option (B) if you would like to proceed with free-hand cropping of the photo.



Cropping: (a) Landscape; (b) Portrait

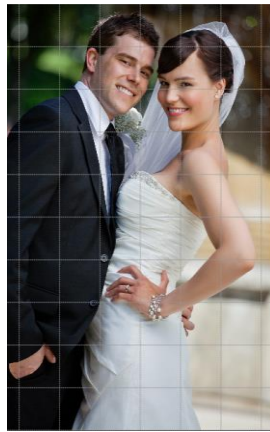
Rotate

- ❖ Select the 'Rotate' option on the option bar and then rotate the photo to the desired angle using the slider (A).
- ❖ The changes can be reset by clicking on 'Reset' (C).



The 'Rotate' option

- ❖ Uncheck the 'Show Grid' box to remove the grid lines.
- ❖ You also have the option of using grid lines on the photo to help align it better while rotating. You could activate the grid lines by checking the 'Show Grid' checkbox (B).



Using grid lines on the photo

Other Icons on Edit Photo window

Apart from the options that are available under Basic filters, there are few other 'aids' in the Album Xpress that help you as you proceed with designing the Album. These are discussed below.

Correction Tool

The correction tool **(D)** appears with all options and can be used to 'correct' any error that might happen while using the filters or add to the effects already created. The brush size and feather tool can be altered by using the respective slider or by entering the value of your choice in the value box.

! Remember to keep the Ctrl key pressed to activate the correction mode and to keep the Shift key pressed to undo the change.

Original and Before and After Images

Original Image: In the course of working on the photos, you might decide to retain an original image or make a fresh set of changes. In such cases, you could load the original image once again by clicking on 'Load Original'. Once the 'Load Original' icon **(A)** is clicked the software asks for confirmation by displaying a text box. This text box warns that all changes made on the photo so far will be lost. You could click on 'Yes' to proceed. Clicking on 'No' will take you back to the photo with changes.

Before and After Images: After making a change, you could view how the photo looked just before the change was made by clicking on 'Before' and how the photo looks after the change by clicking on 'After'. This aids in better decision-making.

Saving the Changes

There are two 'Save' icons on the lower right-hand corner of the 'Edit Photo' window.

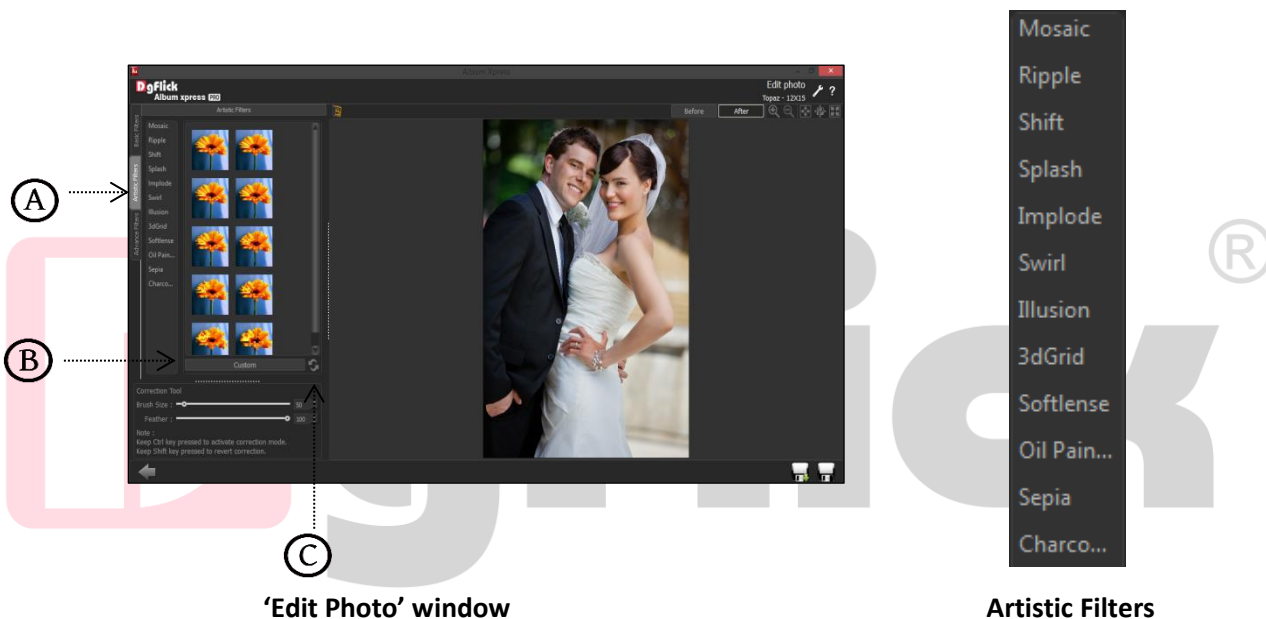
'Save' **(F)**: Clicking on this icon causes the old file to be rewritten and the new copy now exists for your reference.

'Save as' ^(E): Clicking on this icon will allow you to save a copy of your work. A text box allowing you to name the copy appears and clicking on 'Ok' after entering the name creates a new copy of your work.



8.1.2. Artistic Filters

Artistic filters provide more options for editing the photo and adding more effects to get an eye-catching end result. Some of these options include Mosaic, Ripple, Shift and so on. You could access these options by clicking on 'Artistic Filters' tab ^(A) on the option bar. This section deals with the filters one by one.



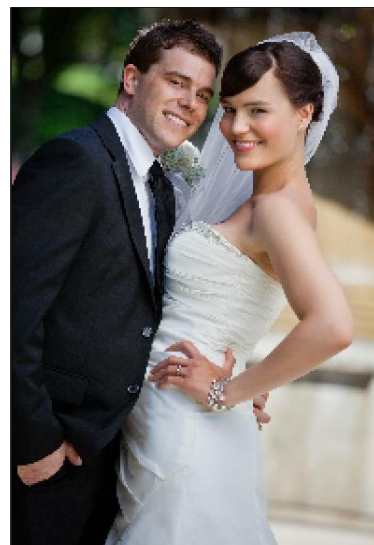
'Edit Photo' window

Artistic Filters

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Mosaic

- ❖ Click on 'Mosaic' option to add a mosaic effect to the photo.
- ❖ You could apply the effect seen in any one of the 10 presets on the option bar to the photo by double clicking on the preset.
- ❖ To customize the size of the mosaic blocks, click on 'Custom' button ^(B) below the presets.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.



Applying a 'Mosaic' preset to the photo

Ripple

- ❖ To add a 'Ripple' effect to the photos, click on 'Ripple' button on the option bar.
- ❖ Select the preset of your choice from the 20 available presets and double click on it to apply the effect to the photo.
- ❖ You could customize your ripple by clicking on 'Custom' button ^(B) either adjusting the sliders for the amplitude and wavelength or entering values manually.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.



Applying the 'Ripple' effect to the photo

Shift

- ❖ Click on 'Shift' option to apply the shift effect to the photo.
- ❖ Select and apply the effect you desire by double clicking on one of the 10 presets available on the option bar.
- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button ^(B) if you wish to customize your shift value.
- ❖ Move the slider or manually insert the value in the shift value box.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.

Splash

- ❖ Click on 'Splash' button on the option bar to apply the splash effect to the photo.
- ❖ Of the five presets that appear on the option bar, you could choose any one for the photo and apply the effect by double clicking on it.
- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button ^(B) to customize the density of the splash effect.
- ❖ Use the slider to change the value of the density or manually enter the value in the value box.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.

Implode

- ❖ Click on 'Implode' button on the option bar to apply the effects under implode to the photo.
- ❖ Of the ten presets available on the option bar, double click on the desired preset to apply the effect on the photo.

- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button ^(B) to alter the values for 'Implosion' and 'Explosion' based on your requirements.
- ❖ Use the sliders to alter the values, else manually enter the values in the value box.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.

Swirl

- ❖ Click on 'Swirl' button on the option bar to apply the 'swirl' effect on the photo.
- ❖ Of the 18 presets available under this category, you could choose any one for the photo by double clicking on it.
- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button ^(B) to alter the degree of swirl.
- ❖ Use the slider to alter the swirl value, else manually enter the value in the value box as per your requirement.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.

Illusion


- ❖ Click on 'Illusion' button on the option bar to apply different illusion effects on the photo.
- ❖ Of the 10 presets available under this category, you could choose any one for the photo by double clicking on it.
- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button ^(B) to alter the section count of the illusion effect.
- ❖ You could increase or decrease the section count by using the slider or entering the value manually in the value box.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button ^(C) to reset the settings.

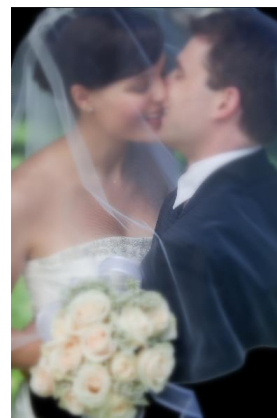
3dGrid

- ❖ Click on '3dGrid' option to apply the 3d grid effect on the photos.
- ❖ Of the 10 presets available under this category, you could choose any one for the photo by double clicking on it.
- ❖ To customize the cell size and line depth, click on 'Custom' button ^(B).
- ❖ Use the sliders to adjust the cell size and line depth as per your requirements, else insert the values in the value boxes.

- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button  to reset the settings.

Softlense



- ❖ Click on 'Softlense' button on the option bar to apply the effects under the 'Softlense' category.
- ❖ From the 13 presets available, you could choose and apply the preset of your choice to the photo by double clicking on the preset.
- ❖ Click on 'Custom' button  to modify the 'softness' of the effect.
- ❖ Use the slider to make the required change, else enter the value manually in the value box.



The 'Softlense' effect applied

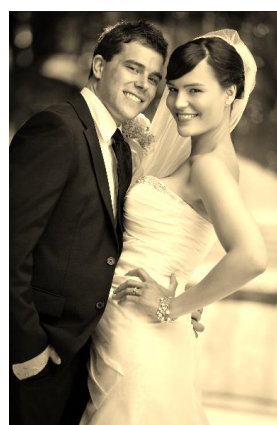
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button  to reset the settings.

Oil Painting

- ❖ To lend an oil-painting effect to the photo, click on 'Oil Painting' button on the option bar.
- ❖ Select the effect you require by double clicking on the preset from the 10 presets made available on the option bar.
- ❖ To customize your brush size, click on 'Custom' button .
- ❖ Change the brush size by moving the slider or by manually entering the value in the value box.
- ❖ Click on 'Reset' button  to reset the settings.

Sepia

- ❖ To apply a sepia tone to the photo, click on 'Sepia' option in the option bar.
- ❖ Check the box corresponding to 'Sepia' to apply the effect to the photo.
- ❖ Uncheck the 'Sepia' box to reset the setting.



The 'Sepia' effect

Charcoal Drawing

- ❖ To add a charcoal drawing effect to the photo, click on 'Charcoal Drawing' button on the option bar.
- ❖ Check the box corresponding to 'Charcoal Drawing', to apply the effect to the photo.
- ❖ Uncheck the 'Charcoal Drawing' box to reset the setting.



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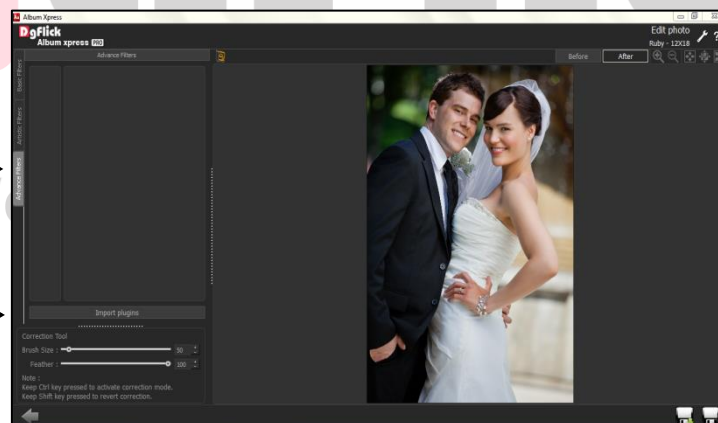
8.2. Advance Editing

Album Xpress has several types of 'filters' that helps in adding special effects to the photos and Album to make for an eye-catching end product. Basic Filters and Artistic Filters have been dealt with in detail in previous section. We now take a look at the advanced editing option in Album Xpress – the Advance Filters.



8.2.1. Import Plug Ins


- ❖ On the 'Edit Photo' window, click on 'Advanced Filters' ^(A) tab to access the advance filters.
- ❖ Click on 'Import Plugins' button ^(B) on the page to import third-party plug-ins from the location in which you have saved it.
- ❖ You could even download plug-ins from the Internet. Most of Photoshop plug-ins are supported by Album.

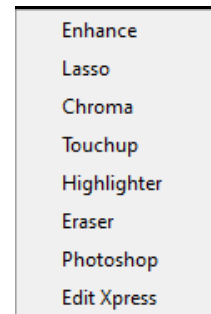



'Edit Photo' window - Advanced Filters

Note: Advanced Filters option is not available with MAC.

8.2.2. Lasso





- ❖ On the 'Design Album' window, select the photo you wish to modify, then click on  on top option bar and select the option 'Lasso'.




- ❖ On the 'Lasso' window, the tools are available on the top, left-hand corner above the photo.
- ❖ Select  from the top tool bar to make the 'layer' you would like to use.
- ❖ The right-click on your mouse helps you to go back in case of an error.

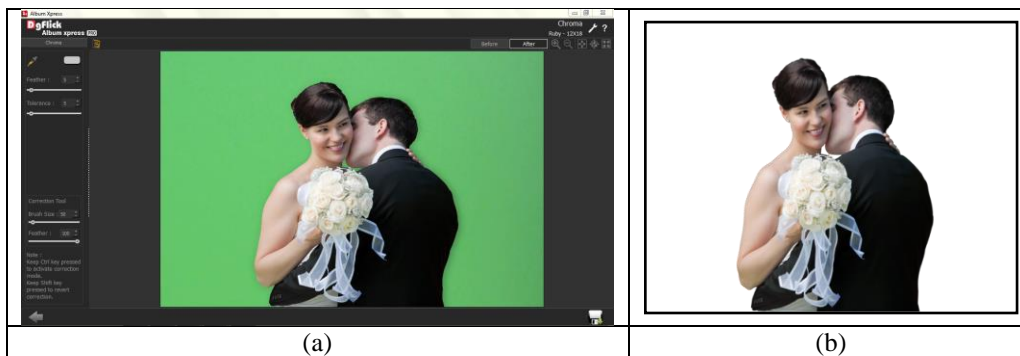


The Lasso page with the tools (a) Before (b) After



- ❖ Use  to select the layer created.
- ❖ Finally, use  to invert the layer.
- ❖ At any point of the process, click on  to see how the picture will appear after the change is applied and to view the photo as it was before the change.
- ❖ Save the changes by clicking on . This allows you to save a copy of the new file in the path.

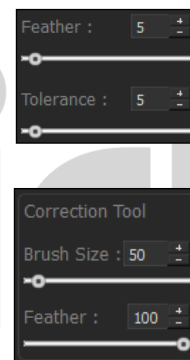
8.2.3. Chroma

- ❖ On the 'Design Album' window, select the photo you wish to modify, then click on  and select the option 'Chroma'.




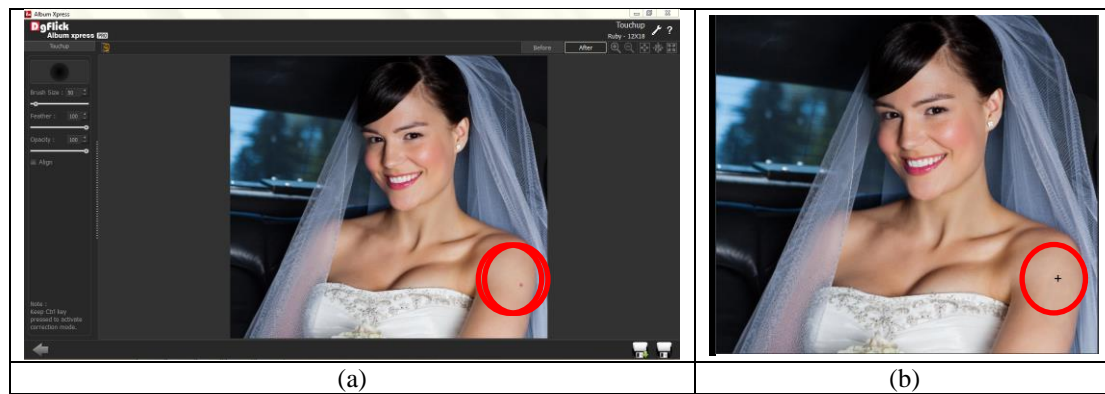
The Chroma option (a) before (b) after

- ❖ The Chroma option is useful when you wish to change the background of a photo or conceal some part of the photo to suit your layout.
- ❖ The color picker  and 'Feather' and 'Tolerance' help in using this option.
- ❖ Click on the color picker and click on the area on the photo that you want concealed.
- ❖ Adjust the values for the feather and tolerance as per your requirement by moving the sliders for these values backward and forward or by manually entering the values in the value boxes.
- ❖ To undo a change or to make corrections to the changes made, use the correction tool on the page.
- ❖ You could change the brush and feather size by using the sliders or by entering the values in the value boxes.
- ❖ Keep the Ctrl key pressed to activate the correction mode and the Shift key to reset the change.
- ❖ At any point of the process, click on 'After' to see how the picture will appear after the change is applied and 'Before' to view the photo as it was before the change.
- ❖ Save the changes by clicking on . This allows you to save a copy of the new file in the path.




8.2.4. Touchup


- ❖ You can remove all the blemishes, wrinkles, unwanted spots and marks with the help of Touchup tool. On the 'Design Album' page, select the photo you wish to modify, then click on  and select the option 'Touchup'.

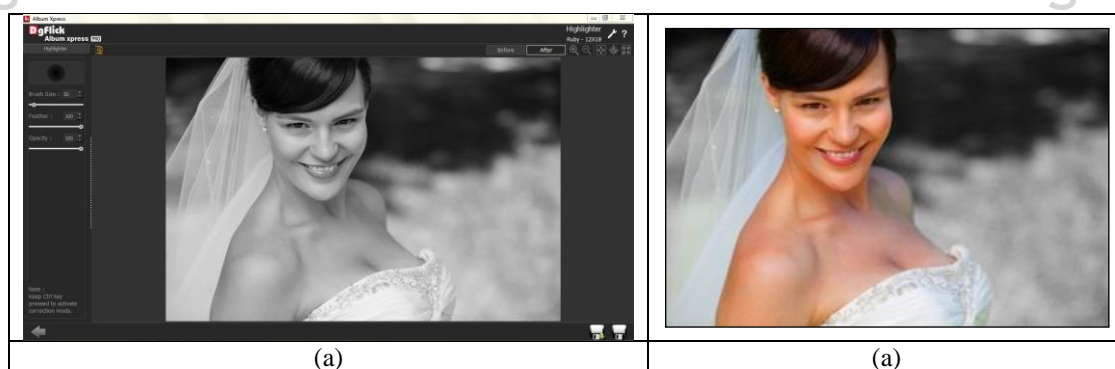


The Touchup option (a) before (b) after

- ❖ Select a clone point by Alt + click to copy the same area to remove blemish i.e. any spot, mark, select the brush size according to the area that needs to be given touch up and now take your cursor on the affected area and click mouse button.
- ❖ Save the changes by clicking on . This allows you to save a copy of the new file in the path.

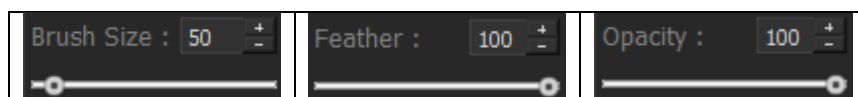
8.2.5. Highlighter



- ❖ On the 'Design Album' window, select the photo you wish to modify, then click on  and select the option 'Highlighter'.
- ❖ The highlighter option helps to make any subject of your wish stand out in color against a black-and-white background.
- ❖ Once the photo is selected and 'Highlighter' option chosen, the photo, initially in color, opens in black and white on the 'Highlighter' page.



Highlighter (a) before (b) after


- ❖ Adjust the brush size, feather and opacity using their respective sliders or by entering the values in the value boxes.

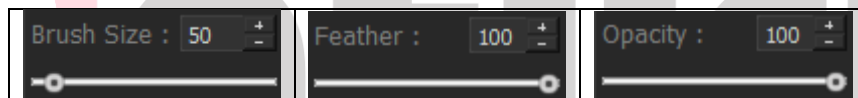


- ❖ Move the brush over the area you want to be highlighted. That segment now appears in color and the remaining parts stay in black and white.
- ❖ Keep the Ctrl key pressed to activate the correction mode in case you need to undo your highlighting.
- ❖ To see how the photo looked before and after the change, click on 'Before' and 'After' respectively.
- ❖ You could save a copy of the photo with the changes by clicking on  or overwrite the original photo by clicking on .

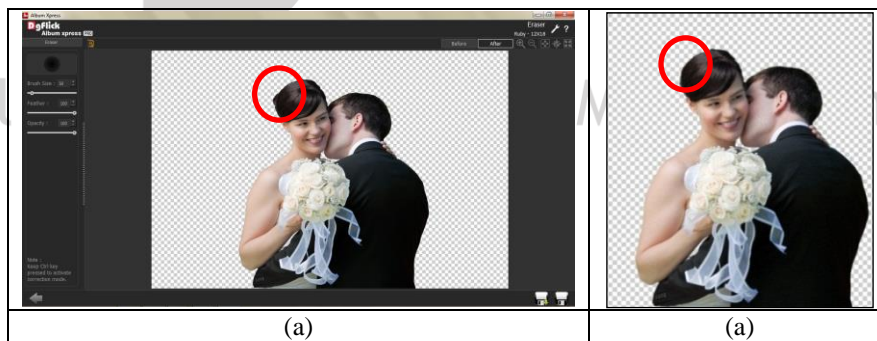


8.2.6. Eraser



- ❖ On the 'Design Album' window, select the photo you wish to modify, then click on  and select the option 'Eraser'.
- ❖ The 'Eraser' can be used to erase the portions of the photo that you do not wish to retain in the Album.
- ❖ Adjust the brush size, the feather and the opacity by using the corresponding sliders or by entering the values in the value boxes.



- ❖ Move the eraser over the segments of the photo that need to be erased.



Eraser (a) before (b) after

- ❖ Keep the Ctrl key pressed to reset the changes and the Shift key pressed to redo the erasing.
- ❖ You could save a copy of the photo with the changes by clicking on  or overwrite the original photo by clicking on .



8.2.7. Edit Photo in Photoshop *

- ❖ You can edit any photo in Photoshop. Select the photo and select 'Photoshop' option in 'Edit Photo' tab.

- ❖ If you have defined the path of the Photoshop software in the preferences, the selected photo will directly open in the Photoshop software.
- ❖ If you haven't defined the path, you will be asked to define the path now. Give the path of the location folder of Photoshop and open the photo.
- ❖ Until you are editing the photo in Photoshop, the Album Xpress will be locked and you will not be able to perform any action in Album Xpress.
- ❖ In 'Photoshop', do the required editing and save the photo on the desired location.
- ❖ The Album Xpress will be open up.
- ❖ The photo will directly appear on the existing place.
- ❖ If the photo isn't replaced, browse and select new photo.
- ❖ Alternatively, if you want to automatically update the photo in Album Xpress with the edited photo, enable the script in Photoshop.
- ❖ To enable the script, follow the path in tabs. File -> Scripts -> Script event manager. A window will be opened. In this window, check the 'Enable event to run scripts or actions' checkbox. Now whenever, you will perform any editing in Photoshop and save the photo, the photo will directly appear in place of selected photo. This saves your time.
- ❖ In this way, you can edit the photo in external software and easily bring it in Album Xpress.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

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8.2.8. Edit Photo in Edit Xpress

- ❖ If you have installed Edit Xpress 2.5 or upper version in your computer, you can edit photos in Edit Xpress directly from Album Xpress.
- ❖ Select the photo and from the 'Edit Photo' tab, select the 'Edit Xpress' option.
- ❖ The selected photo will get opened in Edit Xpress directly.
- ❖ Edit the photo and save it for use.
- ❖ Once you save the photo, the updated photo will appear in the place of selected photo.
- ❖ In this way, you can edit photo in Edit Xpress and easily get it in Album Xpress without browsing.

Note: Before choosing Edit Xpress option through Album Xpress, make sure Edit Xpress software is not running in background.

9.0. Job's Done – Saving & Exporting

Album Xpress not only supports Album creation but also allows you to save the file for future use, send a viewable copy to the customer and export it as required. These features add to the versatility of the software and simplify working on it to a great extent. This section deals with the saving, opening and exporting of files once the Album is created.

9.1. Saving the Project

9.2. Proceed to Album Exporting

9.3. Exporting in JPG Format

9.4. Exporting in PDF Format

9.4.1. Exporting as Low Resolution PDF

9.4.2. Exporting as High Resolution PDF

9.4.3. Exporting as Layered PDF

9.5. Exporting in PSD Format *

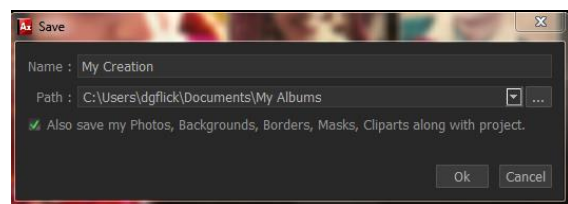
9.6. Exporting for Choice Xpress

9.7. Share on Facebook

9.1. Saving the Project

❖ After the project is done, the next step is saving the project by clicking on .

❖ The default path for saving the project is displayed in the textbox as 'My Documents \My Albums'. You could either save the project in this path or provide the path of your choice to save the project.



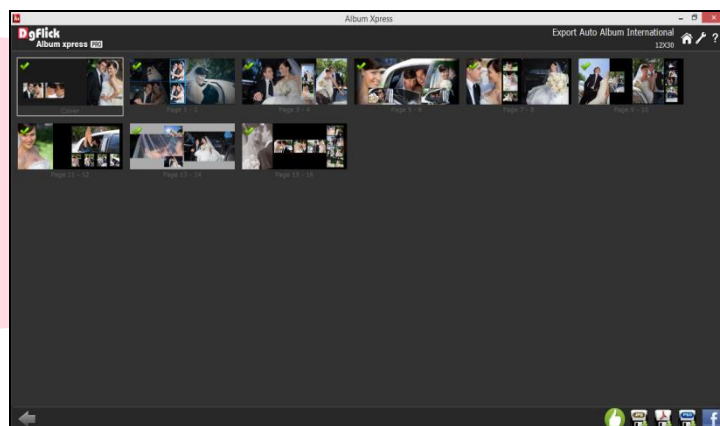
❖ Save the other elements used in the Album, such as cliparts, borders, shapes and so on, by checking the box against 'Also save my Photos, Backgrounds, Borders, Masks, Cliparts along with Project'.

❖ Click on 'Ok' to save the project or on 'Cancel' to abort the process.

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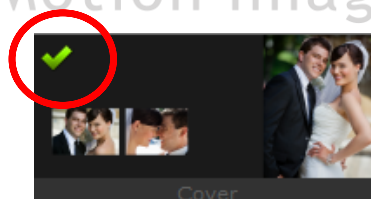
9.2. Proceed to Album Exporting

- ❖ After an Album project is saved, it needs to be exported so that it can be sent to the customer or printed as the final output.
- ❖ Once the saving process is done, click on 'Next' button to start the exporting process.
- ❖ On the next screen, the 'Export My Creation' page, you can see all the pages of the Album with little green 'tick' marks on them.




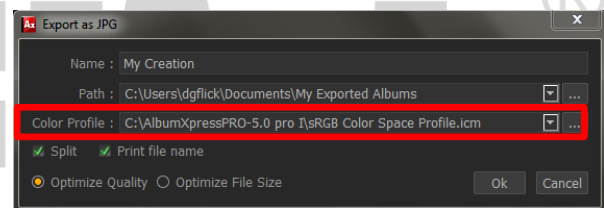
'Export My Creation' window

- ❖ In case you do not wish to include any page in the 'exporting' process, simply uncheck the page by clicking on it. The green tick now disappears and the page will not be included in the final Album.




9.3. Exporting in JPG Format

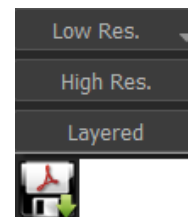
- ❖ To save the project in a JPG format, click on , on the lower right-hand corner.
- ❖ The default path for saving the .jpg file appears in the textbox that is now visible on screen. The path is 'My Documents\My exported pages'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.
- ❖ Set the color profile by clicking on 'Browse' button.
- ❖ To split the Album while saving, check the 'Split' Checkbox.
- ❖ You could optimize the quality or the file size by checking 'Optimize Quality' or 'Optimize File Size', as per your requirement.
- ❖ Click on 'Ok' to proceed with the exporting or on 'Cancel' to abort the process.
- ❖ Once the project has been exported, you get the confirmation in a text box.



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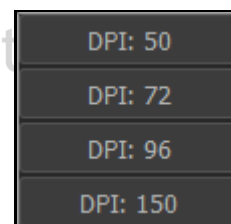
9.4. Exporting in PDF Format

- ❖ To save the project in a PDF format, click on  in the lower right-hand corner.
- ❖ The PDF file can be exported in three different formats: Low resolution PDF, High resolution PDF and Layered PDF.



9.4.1. Exporting as Low Resolution PDF

- ❖ Select 'Low Resolution' to save the file with a low resolution. Such low resolution files can be used only for viewing and are not suitable for printing. Files are created in this format so that they can be sent to the client for approval or for general viewing purposes. Besides, the customer can add in comments for the photos or pages.
- ❖ The low-resolution file can be generated with four different DPI options. When you choose the low-resolution option, you are asked to choose the DPI you want for the PDF file.



- ❖ The DPI options are
 - ☐ DPI 50
 - ☐ DPI 72
 - ☐ DPI 96
 - ☐ DPI 150
- ❖ Choose the desired DPI option. A window will appear. Give file a name.
- ❖ The default path for saving the PDF file appears in the textbox. The path is 'My Documents\My Exported Albums'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.
- ❖ Clicking on 'OK' will create a low-resolution PDF file. Clicking on 'Cancel' will abort the process.
- ❖ Once the project has been exported, you get the confirmation in a text box.



9.4.2. Exporting as High Resolution PDF

- ❖ Select to save the file with a high resolution. A file saved with this option will be in a printable format.
- ❖ The default path for saving the PDF file appears in the textbox. The path is 'My Documents\My Exported Albums'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.
- ❖ Select to split the file while saving if you want to split the pages.
- ❖ Clicking on 'OK' will create a high-resolution PDF file. Clicking on 'Cancel' will abort the process.
- ❖ Once the project has been exported, you get the confirmation in a text box.




9.4.3. Exporting as Layered PDF

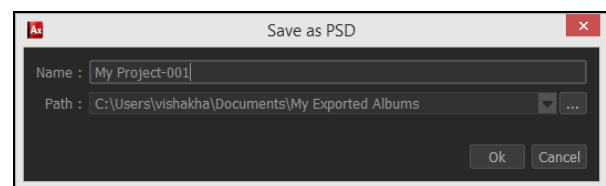
- ❖ Click on to save a 'layered' PDF file. Such layered PDF files are high-quality files in which color correction can be done before printing.
- ❖ The default path for saving the PDF file appears in the textbox. The path is 'My Documents\My Exported Albums'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.
- ❖ Clicking on 'OK' will create a layered PDF file. Clicking on 'Cancel' will abort the process.
- ❖ Once the project has been exported, you get the confirmation in a text box.

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9.5. Exporting in PSD Format *

❖ To save the project in a PSD format, click on  at the lower right-hand corner.

❖ The default path for saving the PSD file appears in the textbox that is now visible on screen. The path is 'My Documents\My exported Albums'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.



❖ Click on 'OK' to proceed with the exporting or on 'Cancel' to abort the process.

❖ If you have given the path of the Photoshop software in the preferences, the project will automatically get exported in PSD format. If you have not given the path earlier, you will be asked to give the path now. Give the path and export the project in PSD.


❖ Once the project has been exported, you get the confirmation in a text box. View the PSD files with the help of 'Open' button.

Note: You will only be able to export project in PSD format if your computer have Photoshop software.

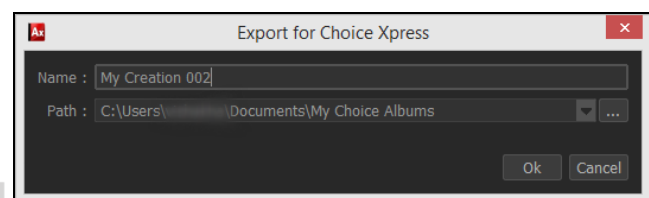
Note: To export the project in Photoshop, the Photoshop software should not be running in background. It means the Photoshop software should be closed to enable the PSD exporting.

Note: Features marked with * marks are only for PRO version users.

9.6. Exporting for Choice Xpress

If you are using Choice Xpress for approving photos and wedding album pages from client, you can generate thumbnails of album pages to upload. Click on the 'Export for Choice Xpress' icon .


- ❖ The default path for saving the thumbnails appears in the textbox that is now visible on screen. The path is 'My Documents\My Choice Albums'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.

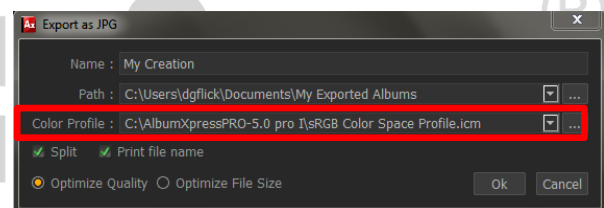


- ❖ Click on 'Ok' to proceed with the generating thumbnails or on 'Cancel' to abort the process.

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9.7. Share on Facebook

- ❖ If you wish to share the Album on your Facebook account then click on .
- ❖ You will be asked to save the project in JPG format. Save the files in the JPG format.
- ❖ The default path for saving the .jpg file appears in the textbox that is now visible on screen. The path is 'My Documents\My exported pages'. However, you could change the path and save it in any location of your choice.
- ❖ Set the color profile by clicking on 'Browse' button.
- ❖ To split the Album while saving, check the 'Split' Checkbox.
- ❖ You could optimize the quality or the file size by checking 'Optimize Quality' or 'Optimize File Size', as per your requirement.
- ❖ Click on 'OK' to proceed with the exporting or on 'Cancel' to abort the process.
- ❖ Once the project is exported in JPG format, you will be redirected to the login window where you are supposed to insert your login credentials of Facebook and share the book.



10.0. Open Saved Project

Album Xpress gives you the great advantage of opening and editing the saved projects as many times as you want. It also lets you use the saved project as a template where you just need to insert the photos. This saves your time as well as your energy.

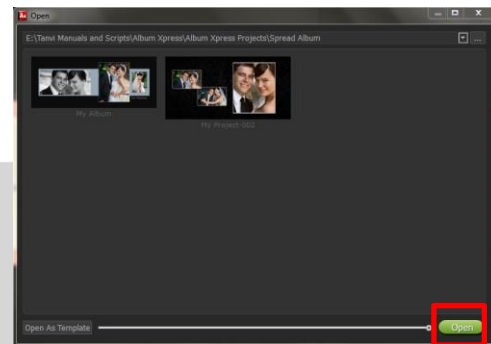
10.1. Open Saved Project

10.2. Open Project as Template

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10.1. Open Saved Project

- ❖ To open a project that has been saved and exported, click on the Home icon of Album Xpress.
- ❖ You will be redirected to Home page where you can see 'Open' option at left bottom side.
- ❖ Click on 'Open' option.
- ❖ The projects you have saved are now displayed on the screen.
- ❖ Through 'Browse' icon you can give path of the folder where you have saved your project.
- ❖ Select the project you wish to work on and then click on 'Open'.

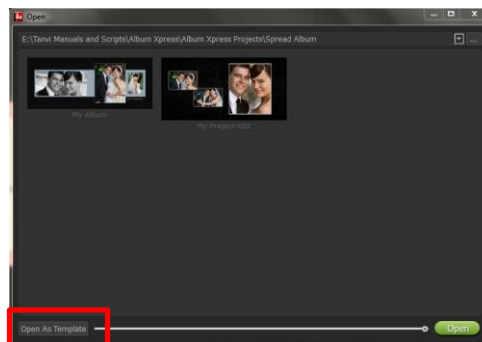


The saved projects in the path

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10.2. Open Project as Template

- ❖ To open a project as a template that has been saved and exported, click on the Home icon of Album Xpress.
- ❖ You will be redirected to Home page where you can see 'Open' option at left bottom side.
- ❖ Click on 'Open' option.
- ❖ The projects you have saved are now displayed on the screen.
- ❖ Through 'Browse' icon you can give path of the folder where you have saved your project.
- ❖ Select the project you wish to use as a template and then click on 'Open as Template' button at left bottom side to use the same design with other photos as many times as you wish to.



The 'Open Project' window with 'Open as Template' option

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11.0. Troubleshoot

This section deals with questions most commonly encountered by Album Xpress users.

How fast can I create an Album?

Ans: With Album Xpress, you have the option of creating Albums in a matter of minutes using various Auto Album Creation styles like Perfect, Auto and Eco style. Once you select the templates or themes and photos that go into the Album, Album Xpress will do the rest for you.

I do not wish to use Album Xpress ready templates or themes. Can I design my own template?

Ans: Sure. Album Xpress has plenty of tools and options to help you with perfect composition and decoration. They include:

Composition tools – ruler, grid, guidelines, auto resizing, Page and Object based alignment and so on.

Decoration tools – mask, border, clip arts, backgrounds, themes and so on.

Can I create Albums in sizes specific to My Album Company and my requirements?

Ans: Yes. Album Xpress allows you to customize the Album size. Moreover, you could define your cover and page size including margins. You can also define the starting page in the Album, that is, whether the Album should start on the left page or on the right. Album Xpress also allows you to save* this new Album size for future use.

Could I use my own collection of clip-arts in place of the Album Xpress ones?

Ans: Yes. Album Xpress allows you to import any decor such as

Background (any JPEG),

Clip-arts (any JPEG/PNG),

Frames (any PNG),

Masks (any PNG).

Any decor used in Album Xpress will be automatically generated in 18 shades. You can also get your own templates or themes while working on Album Xpress (use Free PSD to Ax Template conversion utility).

Can I color correct photos while designing my Album?

Ans: Sure. Album Xpress provides two types of photo editors, which are a part of the software:

Photo editing with RGB, BCG, Curves and Levels

Advanced editing with Lasso, Chroma, Touch up, Highlighter, Eraser and plug-ins.

Apart from these options, a color correction tool is provided from where you can also do instant BCG and RGB color correction to match the photos with the page background.

Is it possible to expand size of mask or free transform the mask on photos?

Ans: Yes absolutely possible. Here the software allows you to adjust mask size as well as the border size according to the height width and size of the inserted photo.

I usually use 'Portraiture' plug-in available in Adobe Photoshop to correct photos. Can I use photos corrected in this manner in Album Xpress?

Ans: Album Xpress directly supports 'Portraiture' as a plug-in. Hence, you need not exit Album Xpress to correct the photos with your favorite plug-in. Besides, you may import any other plug-in of your choice within Album Xpress.

How will I send the designed Album to the customer for his or her approval?

Ans: Album Xpress lets you export the Album project as low-resolution PDF files. These files have the following advantages:

Low-resolution PDF files are good to view in any size and require no special software. Any PDF viewer can display such files and they can even be viewed on any mobile device.

Since it is in PDF format, the customer can add his or her comments on any page/photo.

A low-resolution PDF file does not give a good output on printing and hence you can be assured that for printing purposes, the high-resolution files for the Album can be sourced only through you.

Can I transfer my on-going Album project to my home PC to ensure quicker delivery?

Ans: Absolutely. You could transfer Album Xpress projects to your home PC as while saving your project the software allows you to save the photos and decors as well.

Note: Some features are available only for the Album Xpress PRO version users.

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For additional support or clarification, please contact DgFlick offices/support via:

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